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Poetry.

OUR SCHOOLMASTER.

BY ALICE CARY.

We used to think it was so queer
To see him in his thin, gray hair
Stocking our quills behind his ear,
And straight forgetting they were there.

We used to think it was so strange
That he should twist *such* hair to curls,
And that his wrinkled cheek should change
Its color like a bashful girl's.

Our foolish mirth defied all rule,
As glances, each of each, we stole,
The morning that he wore to school
A rosebud in his button-hole.

And very sagely we agreed
That such a dance was never known—
Fifty! and trying still to read
Love-verses with a tender tone.

No joyous smile would ever stir
Our sober looks, we often said,
If we were but a schoolmaster,
And had, withal, his old white head.

One day we cut his knotty staff
Nearly in two, and each and all
Of us declared that we should laugh
To see it break and let him fall.

Upon his old pine desk we drew
His picture—pitiful to see,
Wrinkled and bald—half full-length, half bust,
And wrote beneath it—twenty-three!

Next day came eight o'clock and nine,
But *he* came not; our pulses quick
With play, we said it would be fine
If the old school-master were sick.

And still the beech trees bear the scars
Of wounds which we that morning made,
Cutting their silvery bark to stars
Whereon to count the games we played.

At last, as tired as we could be,
Upon a clay bank straggly still,
We sat down in a row to see
His worn-out hat come up the hill.

* * * * * * * * *

Years hanging on a peg—a quill
Notched down and sticking in the band,
And leaned against his arm-chair still,
His staff was waiting for his hand.

Across his feet his thread-bare coat
Was lying, stuffed with many a roll
Of "copy-notes," and, sad to note,
A dead rose in the button-hole.

But he no more might take his place
Our lessons and our lives to plain;
Cold death had kissed the wrinkled face
Of that most gentle gentleman.

Ah me, what bitter tears made blind
Our young eyes for our thoughtless sin,
As, two and two, we walked behind
The long, black coffin he was laid in.

And all old women now, and men
With wrinkles and gray hairs, can see
How he might wear a rose-bud then,
And read love-verses tenderly.

Selected Story.

Miss Brown's Fortune.

A Charming Story.

CONTINUED.

He got up hastily and pushed aside his chair. He looked, and indeed felt, as if he had been ill-used. She, too, began to feel that she was not behaving well to him. She had certainly given him cause to believe that she had accepted his offer. She was sorry and annoyed. What could she do? Besides, did she really mean to refuse him?

Something in her own heart whispered that she did not mean to do so. But she could not quite yet bring herself to believe that this was her intention—this, after all these years of fidelity! Was it to come to this?

He was standing stiffly up, with his back to the fire and his hands behind him, and on his face was an expression which somehow made it seem like a new and strange face to her. She found herself wondering if he ever looked like that. She thought for a little, and then said: "Robert, I am sorry I have vexed you. You know that I am naturally slow"——

He interrupted her apology hastily. The few moments during which he had been thinking over this unpleasant and unexpected turn of affairs had shown him that his mind—perhaps even his heart, or what might remain of it—were very strongly set upon this thing. He would not give it up. He caught at the idea conveyed by her words.

"You mean that you haven't had time enough to think it over? Well, Priscilla, I don't want to hurry you. I thought it best to speak plainly to you at once. I'm too old for any nonsensical shilly-shallying. I like to speak out my mind without beating about the bush. I think I would make you a good husband. I would do my best. I wish you would agree at once to take me. But if you would rather wait a little before giving me an answer, I won't ask you to say anything more now. Perhaps you're right, and I have been too hasty with you. We'll say no more about it now, then, and you can take time to think over it."

Yet, though it seemed to her that this was just what she wanted, time to think it over, she was not quite satisfied. That secret misgiving in her heart seemed to be getting stronger and stronger with every minute she spent in his company. Would it not be better to give him his answer at once? Yes, if she could be sure, quite sure, what the answer ought to be.

If she had considered only her own feelings at that moment, she would have been sure enough; but she was thinking of him as well as of herself. She saw he was mortified and disappointed, and she could not bear to give pain to any creature, least of all, to the man whom she had once loved. and who, her true feminine instinct told her, had some real affection for her now. So she agreed to his proposal; she would think about it. And then she told him that she would return home at once to her own house.

He opposed this; but she insisted on it, with a new pertinacity in sticking to her own purpose which startled him not a little. Afterwards, she herself spoke to Mrs. Lorimer at last without hesitation and pain, on what had passed. Mrs. Lorimer was exceedingly annoyed; but she saw that for the present nothing more could be said. She felt, too, that her brother was likely to be provoked with her for her mistaken opinion about Priscilla's probable readiness to accept him; and so, in self-defence, she chose to have no doubts of an ultimate satisfactory arrangement of the question, and parted from her cousin with as much friendliness as ever. To her brother, she said afterwards: "You will see it will all come right. You know Priscilla's slow ways, and I suppose she thought it proper to make a little show at first. Why, you know, this is the first offer she has ever had in her life."

She little knew that at that time Priscilla's thoughts were wandering back to that one other offer which had been made her so long ago. "I was poor then, and he was poor too," she was thinking, between a smile and a sigh. "He didn't care about my poverty. *He* wouldn't have waited to ask me until"—— Then she checked herself. She did not want to be unfair to her cousin; but she could not help thinking again of how disagreeable he had looked, and how unpleasantly he had spoken to her. And again there rose to her mind the image of her former lover—the remembrance of his kind face, and tender, courteous ways; and of the thrill in his voice when he had told her of his hopeless love, which had melted her heart to pity, though not to love again. Ah, if she only could have cared for him then, how different her whole life might have been! And that had been all Robert's doing; and a feeling almost of resentful bitterness seemed for the first time to enter into her mind. Could she forgive him after all, for having so blighted her life? And what was the good of his trying to make up for it now? *Could* he make up for it, do what he liked? "Oh, Charles Lawrence, there was nobody like you, after all!" she murmured. "If I had only known it!"

This was how Miss Brown "thought over" Mr. Dixon's proposal.

CHAPTER VIII.

Two or three days passed, and Miss Brown only grew more and more perplexed and uncomfortable. She felt that she ought to give her answer, and she was more and more sure that she did not want to say Yes. But then, if she refused him! First of all, there was the pain which she would give. He had come to call on her since her return home, and had plainly showed that he was anxious. It seemed unfair to prolong his anxiety and suspense without meaning to recompense him for them. Mrs. Lorimer had also called, and had been unusually gentle and conciliating, with a sort of sisterly affectionateness of manner which seemed to say that she was sure they were going to be sisters. And she had talked of the children, her "dear little nieces;" of her anxiety that they should be in good hands, and of the love which they had suddenly evinced for cousin Priscilla. Once even—though in such a roundabout way that it would have been difficult to reply to it—she had hinted at the advisability of Miss Brown's intrusting her fortune as well as herself to such judicious hands as those now ready to take charge of them. "In these days, my dear Priscilla, it is a terrible responsibility for a single woman to have to look after her own property. Even I find it as much as I can do to attend to the little business connected with my small jointure. And if I had a great sum to look of, really, what with all these dreadful railways and joint-stock companies, and fraudulent schemes of all kinds to rob people of their money, I shouldn't have a moment's peace. And one hears such terrible stories about lawyers and men of business—really, there's no knowing whom to trust."

And then Miss Brown was very lonely. She missed the friendly sociability of Elm Grove. She found her house very dull; and she thought a good deal of Mrs. Barker, and of how lonely and unhappy she had been in spite of all this money. She did not think she could ever be so discontented and unhappy as poor Mrs. Barker; but still it was dull to live alone. "I wish Robert had not asked me," she thought. "I could have paid them long visits at Elm Grove. I should have liked that; but now I can't go there comfortably, if I refuse him."

She began to think that, on the whole, she was wrong not to accept what was offered her. What had she to do with any lingering girlish sentimentality? It was her business as a sensible woman to consider her position fairly, to acknowledge, as she had already acknowledged to herself, that she did shrink from the thought of a lonely, loveless old age.—Was it not even ungrateful to Providence thus willfully to reject the very lot for which she had once so passionately prayed? What if this lot were not exactly what she had once pictured! What right had she to expect that it could be so? She was proffered a secure home, an honorable position, a sphere of interest and usefulness, such as, with her shrinking, timid spirit, she could never find for herself if she continued to remain single. Was she to put aside all this because she had lately begun to regret, sadly enough, the mistake which she had made long ago? She might see clearly enough now that she had been very blind then. She might wish that she had given her love then to the one she now knew to have been the more worthy of it; but it was no use. The choice would not be offered her again.—If she married any one now, it must be Robert Dixon.

"I believe, on the whole, it will be best for me to take him," she thought. "I cannot bear to lose the only friends I have got—the only people who seem really to care for me. What is done, is done. He was so good—there was no one like him. Ah, how clearly I seem to see all that now! But why should I keep thinking of him? I don't know what has become of him; I shall never know. It does not signify to me now."

She had been at home a few days, when one morning she got a visit from Mr. Finch, her lawyer. He said he had brought a letter to show her.

"It is from Major Fortescue's lawyer," he said, with a shrug, and with a look as if he meant to prepare her for something disagreeable. Then he took out the letter and opened it.

"Who is Major Fortescue?" she asked.

He looked at her in surprise. "Major Fortescue! Why, Miss Brown, surely Mr. Dixon has told you about Major Fortescue! He was to have done so; at least I understood him to say so."

"I have not been told anything, so far as I can remember," she replied nervously, recollecting her stupidity and want of memory for business details.

"Well, it's very odd. Of course, I thought you knew all about it."

"Major Fortescue!" she repeated thoughtfully. "Surely I've heard that name."

"Major Fortescue is the person to whom—hem—well, I suppose there's no doubt of that, at least—Mr. Barker—Mrs. Barker's husband, you know—intended to leave his money."

Miss Brown looked so bewildered, that Mr. Finch, seeing her understand neither, explained the case to her.

Mrs. Barker's money had been left her by her husband. But shortly before his death, he had made another will, by which he gave his widow only the interest of his fortune, directing that, at her death, it should go to a distant relation of his own, a Mr. or Captain Fortescue. This will had been duly drawn; but Mr. Barker had died suddenly, and without signing it. It was therefore put aside as worthless, and Mrs. Barker succeeded to the money according to the terms of the former will. The second one, however, had not been destroyed, and had been found amongst Mrs. Barker's papers. It seemed as if she had hesitated between her inclination to carry out her husband's clearly expressed wishes, and her own dislike to the man who was to benefit by them. The latter feeling had prevailed; but still she had kept the useless will—why, no one could tell.

It seemed that Mr. Barker's intention in favor of his relative had been made known to the latter. Major Fortescue was in India, and on hearing of Mrs. Barker's death, but nothing of what had become of the fortune to which he had understood himself to be entitled, he had written to make inquiries about it. And he had heard that the money had been left by Mrs. Barker to a friend of her own—as report said, a sort of humble companion, who had got around her during her last years, and cajoled her into making a will, which at first Major Fortescue believed he had only to dispute in order to get set aside. He was a poor man, and not inclined patiently to submit to his disappointment. From the information he had received, he was led to believe that Mrs. Barker had fallen under the influence of a designing, covetous woman, who had forced the old lady into making a will which had directly contradicted not only her husband's wishes, but expressions which she herself was known formerly to have used, to the effect that it should be her care to fulfil his last intentions. The money was worth fighting for; and Major Fortescue determined to come home and try his cause. The present letter contained an intimation of his design.

Miss Brown sat and listened in petrified astonishment. "Why was I not told of this before?" she said at last.

Then Mr. Finch said that the affair being an unpleasant one, her cousin, Mr. Dixon, had proposed to undertake the full explanation of it to her. "In such a case," continued Mr. Finch, "a relation and confidential friend could offer better advice than a mere man of business can do."

"But what ought I to do?" And Miss Brown looked at him in her old helpless, alarmed way.

He fidgeted a little. He wished Mr. Dixon had done as he had certainly seemed to intend doing. "Well Miss Brown, all I can say is that Mrs. Barker's will in your favor cannot, in my opinion, be set aside. You are perfectly safe. If Major Fortescue goes to law with you"——

"Oh, I cannot go to law!"

"But if Major Fortescue claims this fortune, you must go to law, if you mean to defend your rights. And, of course, it is my duty to tell you, if you ask my advice, that I think you need not fear the result. Mr. Barker's last will is, in law, useless."

"But why, then, should Major Fortescue"——

"Major Fortescue can only hope to prove that undue influence was used to make Mrs. Baker leave you the money. Mrs. Baker, too, was a peculiar woman, and peculiarities may be exaggerated so as to make it appear that she was not in her right mind when she made her will."

"You mean that they will try to prove that she was out of her mind!" exclaimed Miss Brown in horror. "Oh, they could not do such a wicked thing! She was curious, poor woman, but she was as sane as I am, to the last day of her life."

"Yes, I believe there can be no doubt of that. I believe that any attempt to dispute her will on such ground's will break down. But Major Fortescue has evidently been misinformed on some points, and he fancies that the case is worth trying. I can't see that he has any chance; and you need not be alarmed, even if he persists in his intention.—The money belonged to Mrs. Barker, and even if he were to prove himself her direct heir-at-law—for it seems he was related to her as well as to her husband—I still, in my opinion, he cannot prove that she had not perfect liberty to do as she liked with it. This will, you understand, is simply a lawyer's view of the matter. I am only your lawyer; I should have been better pleased if your cousin, Mr. Dixon, had talked this over with you at first, as I certainly understood he was to do."

Miss Brown said nothing.

After a pause Mr. Finch told her he would see her again next day, and hear her further instructions. Then he got up and took his leave. In his own mind, he was a good deal annoyed. Mr. Dixon had not behaved fairly, either to him or Miss Brown; but he was aware that some responsibility would be thrown on himself. "If it does come to a lawsuit," he thought, "the case may be made to look awkward, even though my client gets the best of it."

That afternoon, Mr. Dixon received a note from his cousin, saying she wished to see him. With a feeling of pleasant exultation—for he thought he was sent for to hear the answer to his proposal, and that this answer would be in his favor, he now hardly doubted—he set off towards her house. On the way he turned over in his mind two or three schemes for the disposal of her money which he had been lately considering, and, having decided on which was the most advisable, he knocked at her door with the satisfactory conviction in his mind that, when he came out of that door again, it would be as the future possessor of her hand and fortune. And both possessions had lately obtained increased value in his eyes, since he had been made to wait in a little uncertainty about them.

Miss Brown was not in her drawing-room. He looked round the pretty, comfortable room, comparing it with the poor little parlor in which she had been sitting when he came to tell her of her good fortune, and with a softer, tenderer feeling in his own heart towards her as he reflected that she was going to give up her own pleasant independent position for his sake. The air of the room, too, its grace and refinement, pleased him. The mistress of this room would be a pleasant and satisfactory mistress of his house. She came in. He thought he had never seen any woman enter a room with such a graceful, gentle yet dignified bearing. He wondered how he had during the last twenty years forgotten how pretty she had been—how pretty she still was, with her fair skin, and smooth, still brown hair, and sweet, grave eyes! A curious, almost shy lover-like feeling came over him. He did not speak as he shook hands with her, but he felt happier than he seemed to have felt since he had been a boy, as he obeyed her sign and took a chair near her.

"I wanted to see you, Robert. Mr. Finch was here this morning. He has been telling me something I did not know, something I wish I had known sooner." Then she told him what she had heard.

"Well," he said, after she had finished, and they had both sat silent for a minute. He had been trying to think how he could best account to her for not having kept his word to Mr. Finch, and told her of this at first. He saw that even though she did not like to approach him openly, her grave, gentle manner expressed displeasure at him for his silence. And now he was curiously, sensitively afraid of her displeasure. What could he say to her? How could he tell her he had feared stirring up in her slow, unbusiness-like mind any doubts of the perfect legality of her claim to the money, until at least a part of that money had been safely lodged in his own bank? At first, it had been a mere prudent piece of calculation on his part, mingled with a dislike of troubling himself with explaining things to her which it scarcely mattered whether she knew or not, seeing that her own legal claim to her fortune was untouched. Later he had felt the awkwardness of entering on the subject, and had hoped that no more would be said about it. But now he must excuse himself in some way.

"Well, Priscilla—I'm sorry Mr. Finch understood that I was to explain all this story to you, as it has prevented his doing so sooner."

"But you did tell him, did you not, Robert, that you were to explain it to me?"

"Oh, I might have said something.—Probably he misunderstood me."

"But I remember hearing you say, the very first day that you and Mr. Finch came to talk with me about my money, you know, that you would explain everything to me. You did say so, Robert." Miss Brown's voice was very gentle, but strangely firm, and she was very pale and calm. Something in her expression startled him.

"Priscilla—I am very sorry—you will believe me. I am sorry I didn't save you this annoyance. You're right. I should have told you all this stupid story about Major Fortescue at first. But I didn't want to worry you; there was no use for it, you know."

She interrupted his hurried, eager excuses in her quiet way. "Never mind now, Robert; it can't be helped now.—If I had known at first,"——

"Well, of course, it might have been better if you had known. But as you say, we can't help that now, and besides, you know, it really does not signify. As to this man's going to law with you, I can't think he will be such a fool as to do that."

"I understand things better now," Miss Brown said, not replying to him. "I've been thinking over it all. I can remember things Mrs. Barker said, which I didn't understand at the time. I remember one thing in particular. It was when she was dying. She could hardly speak, but I saw there was something on her mind. I tried to find out what it was; and I could just make out it was something about a paper and her husband. I thought her mind was wandering. Now that I recall her broken words, I feel sure that she had this on her mind—that she felt she had done wrong about this will of hers, leaving everything to me. I recollect her saying one day—long ago, when she was in health—that Mr. Barker had been such a good husband to her, and that she would take care to carry out his wishes in everything, whatever it cost her. I knew she disliked his relations. I remember hearing her speak of one—I think it must have been this very Major Fortescue, but I had forgotten the name"——

"Well, Priscilla," interrupted Mr. Dixon, uncomfortably—he did not like all these inconvenient reminiscences, and hoped she would in future keep them to herself—"well—however it was, the money had been fairly and legally left to you, and no one can dispute that now."

"It has not been fairly left to me."

"Oh, nonsense! My dear Priscilla, you mustn't worry yourself with these morbid scruples."

She looked at him half sadly. "Robert, I thought you would help me."

"Help you!" he said, eagerly. "Of course I'll help you. Priscilla, my dear Priscilla, you know what I've offered you. You'll give me your answer now. You'll agree to marry me—the sooner the better. And then I'll take the whole management of the business and you shall have no more trouble and worry. Come, now, let us fix the day at once. I'm dying to have you back at Elm Grove. Once you are there with me everything will be right."

If she had not been quite sure before of his having any real affection for her, she could not doubt it now. His anxiety, earnestness, made his strong voice tremble and his eyes moisten. For a moment she was shaken, and her conscience was very nearly won. How could she bear to refuse him? Her heart longed for the rest and peace of a sure home; and surely she could trust to his love for her now.

"You'll agree, Priscilla; you'll let me arrange everything. Say you agree." He tried to take her hand, looking anxiously, and as imploringly as he could, in her face—such a look as she would once have died for. Now, after that moment's hesitation, she turned away from him, shaking her head; but her voice trembled too, and there were tears in her eyes as she said: "No, Robert; this isn't the sort of help I mean. Don't you see? Of course I ought to give up this money."

"Give it up! Good heavens! Priscilla, you will not be so mad!"

"Mad! Why, it's only right I should. I see now that Mrs. Barker must have changed her mind at the last; only it was too late for her to change her will. I don't know what made her make it, but I'm sure she repented of it. If she could, she would have done as her husband wanted; I'm sure of that, and so I can't—I can't keep this money." Then she burst into tears; she could not keep it. It seemed so hard, to have to go back again to her own sad life.

"Priscilla, Priscilla," said Mr. Dixon, hoarsely, between his fear and his rage, "you don't know what you are saying!"

"Yes, I do; I've thought of it all."

"But listen to me, for Heaven's sake. The money is yours, no one can take it from you. Ask Mr. Finch——"

"Mr. Finch has told me so already. But that's not what I want. Oh! could I be so dishonorable as to keep it, when I know quite well"—— She could not say more, and if she could have spoken, Mr. Dixon would have been in no humor to listen. He was pacing out arguments, remonstrances, and in his impatience, even sarcasms on her folly. Somehow these did not wound her; she heard them with a sort of stony indifference. Yet there was a deep, vague pain at her heart, deeper even than the sorrow she felt at the thought of the trouble that was before her. She was feeling how utterly she had been mistaken in this man's character—how vain it was to look for any sympathy, any real help from him; and if not from him, from whom else could she expect it?

"Robert, it's no use," she said at last, wearily; "I've made up my mind. I shall tell Mr. Finch so to-morrow."

"And do you expect me to offer to marry you still, when you choose to act in this mad way, and fling away forty thousand pounds as if it was so much dirt!"

He was beside himself now with passion. She shivered a little and flushed under the insult of the coarse, angry speech. But she replied calmly, and for once in her life, almost haughtily: "I do not intend that you should marry me."

"Priscilla," he said with real feeling, and with a touch of shame and remorse, "you know I don't mean that; but you will drive me crazy."

"We will say no more about it. I am tired; I can't talk more. Good-bye, Robert."

"I won't leave you," he said, still angrily, but trying now to keep his composure, "until I've persuaded you out of this folly."

"You can't persuade me out of it;" and she spoke with a calm, weary indifference which made him feel how little she heeded his words. "Good-bye. Don't let me detain you longer here. I'm not able to talk to you more, and you'll excuse my leaving you."

And she left him. When she was gone, the worldly, hard, selfish man sat down and actually cried over his vexation: and they were not tears he need have been altogether ashamed of; for he was feeling, not only that he had lost the chance of forty thousand pounds, but that something he had begun to value nearly as much, if not more, was lost too. Why had he waited so long? Why had he not married Priscilla before? Why was she not his wife now, fortune or no fortune!

TO BE CONTINUED.

Miscellany.

A SINGULAR ROMANCE.

A Supposed Orphan Finds He Has a Father—A Reunion After Thirty-five Year's Separation.

From the Boston Journal.

The truth of the familiar adage, that truth is stranger than fiction, has recently been fully known in the experience of the well known Chaplain of the State Prison, Mr. William Colburn, who some six months ago received a letter from his father, whom he supposed had been dead for years. It appears that thirty-five years ago the father of Mr. Colburn left his wife and two small children, then residing in Maine, and coming to Boston, suddenly left for parts unknown. The wife and children—a son and daughter—were thus thrown upon the world without any resources for support. The son was then three years of age, and his sister younger than he. Mrs. C., finding herself reduced to straitened circumstances, was very reluctantly obliged to let her children be sent to the Alms House. They remained there but a short time, however, for an uncle, hearing of this last shift of poverty, had the children taken to his own home. The mother toiled on, eating the bread of indolence and charity and oftentimes heart and strength almost failed. After some years the daughter died, and several years after that the mother too was released from her troubles by death, leaving the son William, as was supposed, an orphan.

He lived with his uncle but a few years, when, by the death of that relative, he was left to depend upon his own resources to gain a livelihood. He managed to acquire a good common school education, and felt impelled by his convictions of duty to prepare himself for the work of the ministry. Graduating from a Methodist theological seminary, he entered with much enthusiasm upon his clerical duties. This was in the spring of the year 1860, and the second in his ministerial labors was in the State of Massachusetts. His labors were crowned with success, and in one town where he was settled he was instrumental in the erection of a Methodist church, to which he attracted large congregations. While pastor of this Church, Mr. Colburn used often to speak of the hard and bitter experience he had endured as a poor orphan boy, for he considered his father as long since dead. Because of his deep sympathy with the poor and unfortunate, he was subsequently appointed by the Governor (without being solicited to do so) Chaplain of the State Prison, where his active sympathies for its confined inmates would find the largest scope for exercise.

A few months since while a company of friends were seated at the table at Mr. C.'s, where they had been spending the afternoon in friendly intercourse with his family, it was noticed by his friends that he appeared to be very much agitated. As soon as he dispensed with the first course, he asked his friends to excuse his further presence at the table. After tea he returned to the company of his friends, and, on being asked if he was ill, he made a *denouement* substantially as follows:

"Until now, I had supposed that both of my parents were dead, and that from the days of my childhood I had been an orphan. But to-day's mail has brought me a letter from Washington Territory, announcing to me the bewildering fact that my father is yet living. He writes to me to the effect that for what he then deemed a justifiable cause he abandoned his home and his friends when I was three years of age, to become an adventurer, intending when fortune favored him with a competence, to return to New England and make happy his wife and children. From unconquerable circumstances his stay on the Pacific coast was prolonged to a much greater length of time than he originally intended, and he is ashamed to return.

"On making inquiries concerning his family, and according no things from them, he came to the conclusion that they all were dead. Having finally become wealthy he instituted further inquiries though paid agents, who were successful in their investigations. He writes that as he was deprived the privilege of rendering his family a support, and caring for and educating his own children, he now proposes to return to New England to do all in his power to make amends for his past neglect by rendering my future years as pleasant as he possibly can with the means at his command. To Mr. Colburn's children he proposes to do as ought to have done to his son and daughter. He exceedingly regrets to know that his wife is beyond the reach of his disposition to love and benefit her. He informs his son that he is soon to start for Massachusetts, where he hopes to spend the rest of his days in the enjoyment of peace and plenty."

Rev. Mr. C. is now daily expecting the arrival of his long absent father.

The Young in Great Cities.

From Scribner's for December.

Very seldom have we seen the solemn truths connected with the shame and folly of dissipated lives, especially in cities, put into more earnest, and forcible and truthful language than in the following article from the pen of Dr. J. G. Holland, editor of *Scribner's Monthly*. It is worthy the thoughtful perusal of every young person who is tempted to poison both present and future life by feeding upon the apples of Sodom:

The world learns its lessons slowly. Much of the world does not learn its lessons at all. The young are everywhere growing up amid the ruins of other lives, apparently without inquiring or caring for the reasons of the disasters to life, fortune, and reputation that are happening, or have happened, everywhere around them. One man, with great trusts of money in his hands, betrays the confidence of the public, becomes a hopeless defaulter, and blows his brains out. Another, led on by love of power and place, is degraded at last to a poor demagogue, without character or influence. Another, through a surrender of himself to sensuality, becomes a disgusting beast with heart and brain more foul than the nests of unclean birds. Another, by tasting, and tasting, and tasting of the wine cup, becomes a drunkard, and at last, and dies in horrible delirium, or lives to be a curse to wife, children and friends. There is an army of these poor wretches in every large city in the land dying daily, and daily reinforced. A young girl, loving "not wisely, but too well," yields herself to a seducer who ruins and then forsakes her to a life of shame and a death of despair. Not one girl, but thousands of girls yearly, so that, though a great company of those whose robes are soiled go out of life every year, another great company of the pure drop to their places and keep filled to repletion the ranks of prostitution. Again and again in instances beyond counting, are these tragedies repeated in the full presence of the rising generation, and yet it seems to grow no wiser. Nothing has been more fully demonstrated than the first steps of folly and sin are fraught with peril. Nothing has been better proved than that temperate drinking is always dangerous, and that excessive drinking is always ruinous. Nothing is better known than that a man cannot consort with lewd women an hour without receiving a taint that a whole lifetime of repentance cannot wholly eradicate. Since time began have women been led astray by the same promises, the same pledges, the same empty rewards. If young men and women could learn wisdom it would seem as if they might win it in a single day, by simply using their eyes and thinking upon what they see. Yet in the great city of New York, and in all the great cities of the country, young men and young women are all the time repeating the mistake of those around them who are wrecked in character and fortune. The young man keeps his wine bottle, and seeks sports where deceived and ruined women are in wait for prey, knowing perfectly well, if he knows anything, or has ever used fairly the reason with which Heaven has endowed him, that he is in the broad road to perdition—that there is before him a life of disgust and a death of horror.

When the result of certain courses of conduct and certain indulgences are so well known as these to which we allude, it seems strange that any can enter upon them. Every young man knows that if he never tastes a glass of alcoholic drink he will never become or stand in danger of becoming a drunkard. Every young man knows that if he preserves a chaste youth, shuns the society of the lewd, he can carry to the woman whom he loves a self respect which is invaluable, a past freely open to her questioning gaze, and the pure physical vitality which shall be the wealth of another generation. He knows that the rewards of chastity are ten thousand times greater than those of criminal indulgence. He knows that nothing is lost and everything is gained by a life of manly sobriety and self-denial. He knows all this, if he has had his eyes open, and has exercised his reason in even a small degree; and yet he joins the infatuated multitude and goes straight to the devil. We know that we do not exaggerate when we say that New York has thousands of young men, with good mothers and pure sisters, who, if their lives should be uncovered, could never look those mothers and sisters in the face again. They are full of fears of exposure and conscious of irreparable loss. Their lives are masked in a thousand ways. They live a daily lie. They are the victims and slaves of vices which are just as certain to cripple or kill them, unless at once and forever forsaken, as they live. There are thousands of others who, now pure and good, will follow evil examples unwarned by what they see, and within a year will be walking in that road that leads evermore downward.

One does of talking to fools, and falls back in sorrow that hell and destruction are never full—in sorrow that men cannot or will not learn that there is but one path to an honorable, prosperous life, and all others lead more or less directly to ruin.

From the Cincinnati Commercial.

Revaccination to Small Pox.

As the above pestilence is now prevailing in our midst as an epidemic, will you grant me a space in your valuable paper for a few suggestions I should like to make on the subject of re-vaccination in small pox, which may not only prove beneficial in arresting the spread of this most unbearable disease, but of assisting the skeptical or the incompetent to be attached to re-vaccination. Among thirty epidemics of small pox that prevailed in France, one-third only, were attacked with small pox that had been vaccinated, and the mortality small, as well as in the epidemics of small pox in England, Sweden, Denmark, Italy, Malta, Gibraltar, &c. Small pox attacks persons who have been vaccinated since a long period, and spares those who have recently been vaccinated. Children are seldom attacked with small pox before the ninth year after vaccination. In adults it attacks those who have been vaccinated fifteen, twenty, thirty, or even thirty-five years previous. After thirty-five years of age the aptitude to contract small pox is rare. As to the protective power of vaccination, it is absolute and general for the first five or six years, and even to the eleventh and twelfth year, so to judge from experiments on revaccination, as only a few of those vaccinated become liable during an epidemic, the greater number being protected during life. In addition to its protective power, revaccination is the only means we have during an epidemic to stay its spread. In Wurtemberg only one case of small-pox took place in five years among 14,884 revaccinated soldiers, and three cases only among 29 684 revaccinated civilians. An epidemic of small-pox has not appeared in France since 1830, when revaccination was first commenced. Revaccination should be resorted to after fourteen years, but sooner during an epidemic.

In conclusion, I would then urge revaccination to the people as our only safeguard.

Respectfully,
A. F. JOSEPH, M. D.
Fairmount, Ohio.

A Soldier's Yarn.

Our evenings are cool, and when the day's march has not been too fatiguing, the soldiers gather around a cedarwood camp fire, and, in their way, indulge in camp gossip. I listened to discussion last evening on the comparative merits, or rather demerits, of the various military posts at which they had seen service.

"Which was the coldest post?"

A candidate from Rouse's Point presented its claims, who was distanced by another from Detroit, who was, in fact, ignominiously routed by a cavalryman who had wintered at Pembina.

"Which is the hottest post?" was logically and meteorologically the next question.

Tampa Bay, Key West, and Point Isabel were all warmly advocated; but the discussion was thoroughly—indeed one might say hermetically—closed by a three chevroned veteran, who, with a homeric wave of the hand, imposed silence.

"All were attentive to the warlike man.

"Boys, did any of you ever hear of Fort Yuma?" No one of them.

"Well, Fort Yuma is down over beyond Arizona, near the Gulf of California, where nothing grows, nor flies nor runs. Is the hottest post, not only in the United States, but in creation, and I'll prove it to you. You see I was ordered there six years ago, and hadn't been there two weeks, in the month of August, when two corporals died. They had been there ever since the post was a post—in old Hoffman's time. Well, they both died, and where do you think they went?

No one could possibly conceive.

"Why, I'll tell you, they both went straight to h—ll!"

Profound astonishment in the auditory.

"Yes, but they hadn't been gone forty eight hours—hardly time to have their descriptive list examined, and be put on fatigue duty down below—when one night, the hospital steward was waked up in a hurry, and there he saw the two corporals.

"What do you want," said he—you know them hospital stewards are always surprised at a soldier's ever wanting anything. "What do you want?" says he.

"We want our blankets," says they.

"After that you needn't talk to me about any post being hotter than Yuma!"

The auditory separated in silence.

Kentucky sees at last that her school system is not what it should be, and a demand is made that it be not revised but that it be re written and brought forward to the requirements of the age. The present "rate bill" excludes all children from the public schools, whose parents are not able to send them to a private tuition school. This, of course, rules out all the poor children, which in other States, the school law is framed to reach. The law, as framed at present, gives only to large towns the privilege to make a local tax sufficient to support a good school, for at least five months. All the small districts in the State come under what is called the "rate bill," by which, when the general fund is exhausted, the trustees or teacher may levy a sufficient amount upon each attendant of the school to support it the requisite five months. The law does not provide for suitable school houses, and therefore Kentucky is deficient in this particular. The *Courier Journal* inclines to the opinion that the Kentucky school laws should be adjusted to the peculiar social relations of its citizens. If by this is meant a departure from the platform of the Governor on the education of colored children, the *Journal* is striking out in the right direction. But if this adjustment means carelessness toward the colored and special effort for the white, it is wrong. Let the system be remodeled, and let the legislature on the subject be "wise, generous and just."

The announcement recently made by the Levant *Herald* that four ex Ministers, who lately held exalted positions in the Ottoman Government, had been exiled and sentenced to confinement in a fortress, was copied and commented upon all over this country. But the same paper now states that, although this was nominally the sentence passed upon them, their punishment really amounts to little more than removal from the capital. Two are merely sent to Cyprus, where they "will be free to live in all the comfort which the ample wealth of Islam affords." The others have simply been sent to their native places in Asia. Not a very severe punishment after all.

A remarkable instance is the effect of fright in a dream occurred to an interior town of Wisconsin, last week. A young man, a school teacher, just married, spent an evening in reading to his wife incidents of Indian life and warfare in the western country. Going to bed with his mind filled with the subject, he dreamed of having some of the scenes he had been reading of during which he had lost his scalp at the hands of a red-skin, recovering thereby a terrible night. On being awakened by the stir in the house in the morning, he found himself unable to speak, and could only communicate to others by writing—thus relating his dream. It was several days before he recovered his speech.

Weekly Toledo Blade.

A. F. MILLER. D. R. LOCKE. J. P. JONES.

MILLER, LOCKE & Co., Proprietors.

TOLEDO, OHIO, THURSDAY, DEC 14, 1871.

HOW TO SAVE MONEY.

The Best Reading Matter at the Lowest Prices.

OUR REVISED CLUBBING LIST FOR 1871.

We ask the attention of our readers who want to take other papers and magazines in connection with the BLADE, to the following list by which they can secure the leading publications of the country at greatly reduced rates. In making this proposition we only stipulate that we must receive at the same time one subscriber for the BLADE for each copy of any other publication ordered from this list. They need not both be sent to the same person, nor even to the same Postoffice, and in renewing their subscriptions, old as well as new ones, subscribers may avail themselves of the offer:

MONTHLIKS.

The Atlantic Monthly, price $4.00 a year and the BLADE both one year for $4.50.

Scribner's Monthly, price $3.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.25.

Harper's Monthly, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.75.

Lippincott's Monthly, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.50.

The Galaxy, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.50.

Our Young Folks, price $2.00 and the BLADE both one year for $3.00.

Godey's Lady's Book, price $3.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.00.

Arthur's Home Magazine, price $2.00, and the BLADE both one year for $3.00.

The Little Corporal, price $1.50, and the BLADE both one year for $2.50.

The Nursery, price $1.50, and the BLADE both one year for $2.50.

American Agriculturist, price $1.50, and the BLADE both one year for $2.75.

American Farm Journal, price 75 cents and the BLADE both one year for $2.25.

Whitney's Musical Guest, price $1.00 and the BLADE both one year for $2.00.

WEEKLIES.

Harper's Weekly, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.75

Harper's Bazar, price $4.00 and the BLADE both one year for $4.75.

Appleton's Journal, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.75.

Prairie Farmer, price $2.00, and the BLADE both one year for $3.00.

Western Rural, price $2.00, and the BLADE both one year for $3.00.

The Chicago Advance, price $2.50, and the BLADE both one year for $3.00.

Every Saturday, price $5.00, and the BLADE both one year for $5.75.

Hearth and Home, price $3.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.00.

Rural New Yorker, price $3.00, and the BLADE both one year for $3.75.

Oliver Optic's Boys and Girls, price $2.50 and the BLADE both one year for $3.25.

Waverly Magazine, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.75.

New York Sun, price $1.00, and the BLADE both one year for $2.50.

Our agents everywhere are authorized to receive subscriptions at the above rates.

☞ The amount of grain warehoused in Chicago on the evening of Saturday, the 2d instant, was 2,878,770 bushels, against 2,793 068 bushels the previous Saturday, and 3,344,418 the corresponding date in 1870.

☞ During the present year there have been twenty-two State elections. Fifteen of the total number gave Republican majorities, and at the next Presidential election the electoral vote of these fifteen States alone would be sufficient to elect a President.

☞ Mayor MEDILL, of Chicago, places the money value of the property destroyed by the Great Fire at $150 000 000, or more than one-half the total wealth of Chicago at the time, which had been created by labor and capital.

☞ Col. HARRINGTON, of the Census office, has prepared a statement showing the returns of real and personal property of Ohio. The assessed value of real estate is $707,846 936; assessed value of personal estate, $459 884 861.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

The Secretary of the Treasury is the only Cabinet officer whose report is required to be made directly to Congress, the reports of the other departments reaching that body through the President. Secretary BOUTWELL'S report is nearly as long as the President's message, and is looked for and scanned by business men more eagerly than the message itself. The Secretary begins by stating that the reduction of the public debt for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1871, was $94,-327,764 84. The total decrease in the public debt from March 1st, 1869, to Dec. 1st, 1871, was $277 211 892, 16, and during the same period the annual interest has been reduced $16,741 436 04. These are figures of which the Secretary and the Administration have no reason to be ashamed.

The time has arrived, in the opinion of the Secretary, for a still further reduction of taxation to be made, and still allow the sinking of the public debt to go on at the rate of fifty millions per annum. Large as the revenues of the government have been they have not oppressed individuals nor embarrassed the business of the country. Desirable as the further reduction of taxation may be, it is still more desirable to keep the financial credit of the country in its present excellent condition. The success of the recent large loans at four and a half, four and five per cent, is owing to the exhibition which has been made of the honest purpose of the people to maintain the public faith.

The revenue from the customs in 1871 was greatly in excess of the estimates, amounting to $206 290,408 05 against $194,538 374 44 for the preceding year. Under the revised tariff an increase in the import of ten of fifty-five per cent., in coffee of twenty per cent., fifty per cent of brown sugar, and one hundred and twenty per cent. in the quantity of pig iron, and a large increase in many other articles is noted.

The internal revenue receipts for last year were $148,098,153 63, being $404,-898 429 less than the estimates presented to Congress. The Secretary thinks the receipts for the current year will equal the estimates. The net receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871, were: From customs, $206 270 408 05; from internal revenue, $143 098 153 63; from sales of public lands, $2 388 646 68; from miscellaneous sources, $31 060,-736 53; total, $383 323 944 89.

The civil expenses of the government, exclusive of the sinking fund for the same period were: For civil and miscellaneous purposes, $16,579 732 46; for War Department, $12,590 653 05; for Navy Department, $6,553,040 93; for Indians, $3,404,133,42; for pensions, $8,090 098 69; for interest on public debt, $86,725,-124 37. Total, $83,903,882 92. The receipts expected from various sources for the remaining three quarters of the fiscal year make a total of $258,000,000, while the payments for the same period, exclusive of the sinking fund, will not exceed $81,000,000.

The Secretary recommends that the act regulating the distribution of National currency be allowed to remain as it is. The National banks have acted liberally in taking the new loan, not less than one hundred millions being taken on their own account. He says: "It is not unreasonable to tender to these institutions the opportunity to subscribe for bonds under the act of July 14th, 1870, to an amount equal to the deposits required of them as security for circulation, and to suppose that after ninety days to the extent that the offer may be declined, other banking associations may be formed in the several States where the existing banks shall have failed to make the required subscription, and the circulation be transferred from such banks to the new associations. The banks now organized cannot justly complain, they having an opportunity to pursue business upon the new bonds."

The attempts at counterfeiting the special paper made by the Treasury Department have not been successful owing to the superior excellence of the engraving and printing done for the government. He recommends appropriations for a new issue of National Bank notes to render counterfeiting less profitable and tempting.

An immediate and liberal appropriation for the erection of new buildings to replace those destroyed by the fire in Chicago is recommended. Government buildings have been erected at Portland, Maine; DesMoines, Iowa; Madison, Wis; Stores at Philadelphia, and an Assay Office at Boise City, Idaho. Mention is made of other buildings in various places in process of erection.

The revenue Marine Service employs twenty-five steam and eight sailing vessels. The sale of certain useless or unused vessels is recommended. Four iron vessels have been built for the service within the year, and the building of four others is to be undertaken. Appropriations to the amount of $200,000 are asked for, to carry this design into effect. Two of these are for the Atlantic and two for the Pacific coast. The expenses of the Marine Services for the year ending June 30th, 1871, were $1,251 894 50 against $1,136 393 31 for the preceding year. Propositions for further reduction of expenses are discussed in the report.

The establishment of a mint bureau, the chief of which should have general direction of the affairs of assay offices and mints, is recommended. It is also recommended that as our internal commerce is fifteen times as great as our external commerce, we should have a better and more reliable method of gathering its statistics, the figures now being incomplete and unreliable. Provision should, therefore, be made, the Secretary urges, for obtaining such returns as will show fully and with approximate accuracy the trade of the country upon the canals, rivers, lakes and railways.

The necessity for more complete arrangements for the convenience of the officers in charge of the Alaska seal trade is referred to. The irregularity now existing in the salaries of the bureau officers and heads of departments in the Treasury Department is referred to.

The progress of the new loan in Europe is stated as follows:

On the 28th of February last public notice was given that on the 6th of the following March, books would be opened in this country and in Europe for subscriptions to the national loan under the act approved July 14, 1870, and the conditions on which the subscriptions would be received, were also made known. A large number of bankers both in this country and in Europe were authorized to receive subscriptions. The first preference was given to subscribers to 3 per cent. bonds in the limit of two hundred millions of dollars. On the first of August the subscriptions amounted to sixty-five millions seven hundred and seventy five thousand five hundred and fifty dollars confirmed by the National banks. Under date of July 14, 1871, a dispatch was read from Hon. Wm. A. Richardson, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, then in London, stating that certain bankers in Europe proposed to take the remainder of two hundred millions of five per cent. on certain conditions. This proposition was considered modified, and early in August the agreement was made with Jay Cooke & Co., representing bankers in Europe and the United States. By the terms of the agreement the parties represented by Messrs. Jay Cooke & Co. had the right to subscribe for the remainder of the $200,000,000 of said bonds by giving notice thereof any time previous to the first of April next by subscribing for $10,000,000 at once, and for an average of at least $5,000,000 of bonds per month.

It is further stated that a circular was issued advising the National banks of the terms and conditions of the new loan, books were opened both in this country and in Europe, and by the last of August subscriptions were obtained for the entire amount offered. Then notice was given that certain 5 20 bonds to the amount of one hundred millions of dollars would be paid on the 1st of December. More than $80,000 of these are now in the hands of the government, and only $17,000,000 of these have been paid in coin, all the rest being taken in five per cent bonds. The Secretary advises an increase in the allowance for commissions in obtaining subscriptions to the loan, and that provision be made for paying the interest of European holders in London.

Attention is given in the report to the subject of our ocean commerce which has largely passed into the hands of foreign merchants and ship builders. In the year 1860 nearly seventy-one per per cent of the foreign commerce of this country was in American ships; in 1864 it had fallen to 46 per cent; in 1868, to 44 per cent, and in 1871, it is reported at less than 38 per cent. This decrease the Secretary ascribes to two causes: First, the destruction of American vessels by rebel cruisers, and, second, the substitution of iron steamers in place of sailing vessels and vessels built of wood. British ship builders have many advantages over American builders, on the cost of coal, of iron, of labor, and other materials. In all respects the advantage of the British builder over the American is equal to thirty per cent. The only way out of this is to answer the question, "Can the construction of iron steamships be established in this country, and if so, by what means?" The country will not be satisfied with any policy which does not look toward and essentially aid the restoration of American ship-building.—On this important subject the Secretary advises as follows:

After a careful consideration of the whole subject, I am prepared to advise the passage of a law guaranteeing to persons who may employ in the foreign trade American built, first class steamships, of not less than two thousand tons burden, each an equal payment for the period of five years, the sum of thirteen dollars per ton. The subsidy should be proportionately less to vessels of lower classification. In making this recommendation I do not assume that there is no other practicable method of restoring our commerce, but I present it as the method which appears to me to be the most efficient and economical. Connected with this plan, it will be wise to consider whether the ships may not be so constructed as to be available for naval purposes and in case of war, subject to the right of the United States to take them upon payment of their appraised value. A similar suggestion was made by the Secretary of the Navy, in his report for the year 1869. They should also be required to carry the mails on moderate terms, or on consideration of the subsidy. The use of sailing vessels and steamers built of wood may be continued successfully in the coasting trade, the trade with the British possessions and upon the rivers and lakes of the country, but any effort to regain our former position upon the ocean by their agency must end disastrously. I entertain the opinion that the policy suggested will be effectual, and that in a comparatively short period our mechanics and artisans will acquire equal skill with those of England, and that we shall not only have the aid of the best machinery now in use, but that important improvements will be made calculated to place the country in a position of superiority. We shall also be able to test practically the quality of American iron which for the purpose of ship building is represented as better than that used in Great Britain. If it shall appear, as claimed, that American iron is about ten per cent better than the iron used in England, an advantage will be secured not only in the diminished cost of the vessels, but also in the increased tonnage capacity of American ships of equal dimensions over those constructed with inferior materials, accepting as a truth established by experience that the ocean commerce of the world is to be carried in iron steamships, we must consider and decide whether the United States shall disappear from the list of maritime nations, or whether by a determined and practicable effort we shall regain the position which we occupied previous to the late rebellion.

We have thus condensed into as brief a space as possible the facts stated and the recommendations made by the Minister of Finance who has, amid great embarrassments, ably managed the affairs of his department. There is no elaborate discussion of mooted questions, merely facts stated and brief opinions given. We do not doubt but that Congress will conform to the very practical suggestions of the report. The tariff question is not discussed, the work of revising the tariff being left for the consideration of Congress. The schedules for revision being made in the Department will doubtless be in accordance with the views which the Secretary is known to entertain on the subject of protection to home productions.

☞ The following are the estimates submitted to Congress for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1863: Legislative, executive and judicial, $24,249 000; military establishment, $31 423 000; naval, $8 946 000; Indians, $5,446 000; revision, $30 480 000; public works, $19,469 000; postal service, $5,474 000; miscellaneous, $11 258,000; permanent appropriations, $154 961 000; total, $301,705,000; total for 1872 $309 639 000.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

Secretary DELANO'S report for the year 1871 is perhaps the most interesting to the general reader, of any of the annual statements of the different departments. The advancing settlements of the white people into the new territories force the Indian problem upon the attention of the country. Civilization hems the red man in on every side. Something must be done *for* him or *with* him. The Administration, true to the just and humane spirit of the age, prefers to do *for* him, rather than with him—to save him by kindly methods, rather that to rashly devote him to destruction. Consequently "Indian Affairs" constitute the theme of a large portion of this report, and the facts given and recommendations urged will interest every friend of degraded and unfortunate humanity.

The Secretary acknowledges that the counsels and services of the unpaid yet laborious commissioners have exercised a wholesome influence in establishing a new policy, and that their philanthropic efforts have been rewarded by success in withdrawing many evils heretofore connected with the Indian service. These gentlemen have visited the Indians, inspected their condition, reviewed their progress in education and civilization, and have given personal attention to the distribution of supplies, so as to prevent the Indians from being defrauded by unprincipled agents and speculators. The new policy has suppressed wars and depredations before too common, and has united many tribes on their reservations, and tended to suppress vice and advance education, and the practice of agriculture and other industries among them. In this connection it is stated that, exclusive of the products of the Cherokees, the products of the tribes during the past year amount to more than eight millions of dollars. There are 216 schools among the tribes, with a force of 313 teachers, and an average attendance of 8,920.

A few nomadic tribes in Arizona, New Mexico, and on the western borders of Texas, which have not been fairly reached by the new policy, have committed outrages, which have been promptly punished by the military authorities. But the tribes have generally been peaceable.

The report argues in favor of patient and hopeful effort to elevate the Indian. The tribes, and remnants of tribes whose members have been long in contact with the white people, in New York, Michigan, Wisconsin, and even those in the newer states of Kansas and Nebraska, have made a considerable and encouraging progress in the arts of civilization, in the cultivation of the soil, and in general business pursuits. The Secretary suggests that suitable premiums and inducements be offered to encourage attendance on schools, the practice of agriculture, &c.

The number of Indians within the jurisdiction of the United States is about 321,000. This includes the Indians of Alaska, of whom there are about 75,000. There are scattered about in the States, not maintaining tribal relations, Indians to the number of 3,063. Excluding those of Alaska, and those scattered about, the Indian population is divided as follws:

Washington territory	15,487
Oregon	24,508
California	7,383
Arizona	5,066
Nevada	6,000
Utah	12,800
New Mexico	18,640
Colorado	7,300
Dakota	27,815
Idaho	4,469
Montana	18,805
Wyoming	2,400
Nebraska	6,410
Kansas	6,052
Indian territory	53,476
Minnesota	6,377
Wisconsin	6,325
Michigan	8,099
New York	4,804
Total	242,371

Secretary DELANO recommends the organization of the Indian Territory under a government, adopting the name and Constitution proposed by the council of Indian nations at Ocmulgee in December last. He recommends measures looking toward the gathering of all the Indians into this territory, which is large enough to locate all the Indians in the United States, and give every man, woman and child 180 acres of land. Such a disposition of the tribes would release for cultivation and occupancy by the whites 93,602,731 acres of land now held in reservations. On this point the Secretary adds: "With such an ingathering of the now widely scattered tribes, under an efficient territorial government, and with the nucleus of partially civilized nations and tribes already there, the entire race would be so well in hand and surrounded by such influences as to be easily managed, thus enabling the government to work out its humane policy toward them to its legitimate results. If it shall be deemed impracticable to bring all the tribes into the Indian territory, under an organized territorial government, I am satisfied that the good results that will accrue to those who conclude to settle in that territory under such a government will demonstrate the necessity and propriety of locating the remaining Indians under a like territorial government, to be organized in some other place, and embracing such limits and having such location as time, experience, and subsequent information shall indicate as best adapted to the accomplishment of the great object which all good men so honestly desire. The Secretary urges that immediate results be not too eagerly looked for, but patience exercised in testing the policy of kindness. We may not hope to transform a nation of barbarians in a day into civilized, intelligent, orderly citizens. That, if ever accomplished, must be a work of time.

After stating a number of facts concerning the dealing of the department with the tribes, the report concludes this interesting theme with several practical suggestions concerning needed legislation.

We have occupied so much of our space with a condensation of that part of the report which treats of Indian affairs that we must defer notice of the other topics embraced in it to another time.

THE DEMOCRATIC LEADERS PUZZLED.

The New York *World* is puzzled sadly to know what to say concerning JOHN QUINCY ADAMS' letter concerning the condition of the national Democratic organization. It cannot indorse his positions, and yet it does not feel free to combat them. It confesses with charming candor that multitudes of Democrats in all parts of the country think just as Mr. ADAMS does of the political situation. We think this is the worst symptom the Democratic party exhibits. That organization has always had an abundance of wicked vitality. Bad, unpatriotic, wicked and destructive as its principles and measures have been for years, it has had the advantage which a decided, energetic and shameless advocacy of a bad cause can give. Now it begins to falter. Its indecision and irresolution is a fatal symptom.

The *World* comforts the faithful, however, with the assurance that the chief danger is passed. It says that the Democracy will henceforth reach out to the future and not to the past. But it says that to succeed it must have recruits from the Republican masses. That is precisely where it cannot get recruits. It has a much better chance among the sore headed, disappointed, sycophantic mass of office seekers. If it can assure them of better luck in their service, they will zealously spring to the help of the Democracy. But this *mass* never moves in any new direction until it is sure of the masses of the people moving in the same direction. The masses of the Republican party are at this moment more deeply rooted in attachment to and confidence in the Republican cause and its representative men, than any party has ever been since JAMES MONROE commanded the almost unanimous electoral vote of the nation on the occasion of his re election. There were disappointed, reckless and dissatisfied men in the Democratic party then, and so there are now, in the Republican party. Yet the confidence of the people in the honest purpose of the Administration to serve the Republican cause is so great that all the complaint and clamor of these mal-contents must go for naught.

The course to be taken by Messrs. TRUMBULL, SCHURZ, and other Republican leaders, is watched by the Democracy with the utmost anxiety. We are not warranted in believing that such able and sagacious men will dishonor their own antecedents, or that their judgment is being bewildered by the bait held out to them of prominence and leadership in a new popular movement. But, if like Chief Justice CHASE, they should be thus influenced, they will only delude themselves, an lead the Democracy into new difficulties, false hopes, and utter defeat. They will gain nothing themselves by the change, nor will the Democracy gain aught by their adhesion.

The people—we mean the masses whose fidelity at the polls and in the army, have borne the country through all its perils from disunionists—feel that the spirit of revolt and contumacy is too strong, too threatening, too dangerous, in the rebel strongholds, to risk the government in other hands than those which the Republican party may designate to hold it. The interests at stake are too momentous to be committed into doubtful hands. There is not a strong devotion to leaders in the Republican party. There are no bright Luciffers among us who could by their revolt draw away the third part of our hosts from us. If any of those we have considered prominent and influential choose to depart into new political adventures, the masses of the Republican party will not go with them. The Republican party, unlike the Democracy, represents a living cause. It is based upon good motives, good principles, and meets the demands of patriotism at the present time as fully as it has done in the past. It relies on no man's favor for its access. Leaders may come and go as their fickle ambition may prompt, but the cause abides in conscious strength.

This is the occasion of the *World's* bewilderment. It does not see that any of the Republican leaders can bring them the help the Democracy needs. The people are not prepared to desert the Republican party. It will be immortal until its work is done and the resurrection of the rebellion impossible.

GENERAL SHERMAN'S ARMY REPORT.

We find in the Washington specials of the Pittsburgh *Commercial* the following extract from Gen. SHERMAN'S Army Report for the present year. It certainly indicates no desire on the part of the Chief of the Army, or of the President, to be clothed with any powers dangerous to the Republic, nor any disposition to render the military independent of the civil powers. On the contrary, the disposition is manifested to keep the army strictly in its place as an assistant to the civil authorities. The extract is as follows:

As General Halleck recommends, it is eminently to be desired that the sphere of action of the army in these *quasi* civil cases should be better defined by statute, but in the absence of such statute we can only rely upon the intelligence and good sense of the officers specially engaged. Thus far, few mistakes, if any, have been made, and the conduct of the troops has met the hearty approval of the Courts, civil officers, and even of the inhabitants, against whom they have been compelled to act. According to a statement prepared on the 20th of October, 1871, from the latest returns, the army was composed as follows: Ten regiments of cavalry, 8,860 enlisted men; five regiments of artillery, 3,205 enlisted men; twenty-five regiments of infantry, 13,742 enlisted men; one battalion of engineers, 314 enlisted men; ordnance department, 443 enlisted men; West Point detachment, 202 enlisted men, signal detachment, 199 enlisted men; hospital stewards, 310 enlisted men; ordnance sergeants, 114 enlisted men; available recruits *en route*, 319 enlisted men; permanent recruiting parties, 904 enlisted men; general service men at the War Department and Department Headquarters, 420 enlisted men; total enlisted men, 29,003; commissioned officers, 2,105; retired officers, 295. It will thus be seen that the number of enlisted men and officers is within the limits prescribed by law. In order to maintain the military establishment within the limits prescribed in the act of July 15, 1871, each company must be kept below its proportionate standard, and the consequence is that many of the companies at distant and inaccessible posts fall below the number fit for efficient military service, and it is simply an impossibility to guard against the result; and I do hope that Congress will remove the restrictions and give the President discretionary power to keep companies up to a standard ranging between sixty and one hundred privates, according to the nature of service required of the troops. Such a measure would add very much to the efficiency, and would rarely if ever carry the aggregate strength of active army above the standard of 30,000 men now fixed by law.

☞ The Census Officer has prepared a table of the apportionment of representatives in Congress, estimating the number of representatives at 241, and applying the rule for additional men prescribed by the act of May 23, 1850. According to this computation each of the New England States would lose one representative from their present delegation, New York three, Pennsylvania and Ohio two each, and Kentucky one, while Illinois would gain three, Missouri two, California, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, Texas and Wisconsin one each, those of the other States remaining unchanged. The computation has also been extended to an enlargement of the House to 250 members, and so on increasing by ten up to three hundred. With a House of three hundred members Massachusetts would have eleven representatives, to which the other New England States would make no gain on their present representatives.

☞ During the last fiscal year, 11,746 men and 35,748,788 pounds of freight were transported over the Pacific Railroad, Pacific Railroad, $812,812 55; Kansas roads, for the United States Government, at the following cost: Union Pacific Railroad, $255 603,85; Central Pacific Railroad, $66,213.74; and Western Pacific Railroad, $1,730 50. One half of this was retained at the Treasury and applied to the interest on the bonds of these roads, and the other half was paid by the Quartermaster's Department to the companies. A careful estimate shows that the cost of this transportation by wagons, at the old rates, would have been over three and a millions of dollars, without counting the great saving in time, and the increase in the efficiency of the service.

☞ A Washington dispatch states that a paper is in circulation there requesting HORACE GREELEY to become a candidate for President, and that it contains the signatures of a large number of leading Democrats and prominent Republicans, among them such names as WILLIAM. M. EVARTS, CHARLES O'CONOR, HORATIO SEYMOUR and Senator THURMAN. It is also said the paper bears the signatures of well known influential Republicans in nearly all the Northern States. The statement is doubtlessly exaggerated, if not wholly false.

☞ An eastern paper, noticing the Democratic proposition to adopt WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT for their candidate for President, asks with pathos: "What has Mr. BRYANT done that he should be thus treated?"

☞ Washington dispatches report that Senator WILSON and others have been making strong efforts to reconcile the President and Senator SUMNER, with a view to the restoration of the latter to his former place at the head of the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs. We are sorry to have to add that no indications of progress have as yet appeared. Both parties seem to think they were always right, and are indisposed to make concessions. The arranging of the Senate Committees is deferred to allow the peacemakers to work.

There is no reason why the Senate should await the settlement of a personal difference between the Senator and the President, or any members of the Cabinet. Mr. SUMNER has declared that he can and will hold public and official intercourse with certain gentlemen whatever course he may choose to pursue toward them in private or social life. With the private or social differences of gentlemen in or out of office, the Senate should have nothing to do. Senator SUMNER ought never to have been displaced on such grounds, nor on the demand of the President or his Secretaries. The way for the Senate to restore peace to the Republican party is to quietly put Mr. SUMNER in his old place, let the peace negotiations terminate as they may. Then let the gentlemen named control their private relations to suit their respective tastes, moods and tempers, without detriment to the public service.

Topics of the Week.

The "Volunteers" in Cuba come largely from the ranks of Spanish adventurers who went to Cuba simply as fortune hunters. For years there has been hostility between the Creoles (whites born in Cuba) and the Spaniards proper. The Spaniards held all the offices and directed nearly all the commercial transactions. Revolution originated, of course, with the Creoles, and ever since the days of Lopez they have been persecuted. The peasantry from Spain and neighboring Spanish islands go to Cuba, not to make it a permanent home, but much as the Chinese come to America, to accumulate wealth and return to their old homes. These men having no island pride, having in view only the making of money, were made soldiers, and instead of spending their five years in work or trade spend it now as soldiers, with a view to money making. They, at the time of the commencement of the recent revolutionary troubles, were numerous in every town and were not always animated by the right feeling, even in the times of peace. Opportunity for plunder and the old hostility to Cubans led them into an organization that has since become powerful. This organization is not composed even of the better class of Spaniards. Spain, we may say, sent her dangerous peasantry to Cuba, to cause her more trouble there than they did at home. These men, with no love of country as a motive, make the most mercenary of soldiers. Perhaps the Spanish Government saw that they made most effective soldiers against Cubans and encouraged the feeling that has grown to savageness. Rather than lose their aid the Government officials have yielded in many cases, knowing that there was little loyalty to appeal to. The attitude of the United States and the promised action of Spain indicate that the power of the organization is at an end.

The course taken by the United States Government in the Cuban affairs seems to meet with universal approval. Even the New York *Sun* approves but insists that the policy now inaugurated is the one advocated by the *Sun* ever since it has had the misfortune to shine as the subject of its own worship. The fact that it approves and the fact that Senator Trumbull, whose name flies at the *Sun's* head as a candidate for President (Greeley having been hauled down some time since) has declared that he is in favor of the re-election of Grant and an advocate of the President's policy in the South, are worthy of consideration as showing that even the greatest blunderers, must come to the line occasionally and make acknowledgements, even though they do it with schoolboy bluster, and must occasionally see that their saddling the wrong horse wont carry them forward to attain their object.

The people of St. Louis are considering a proposition to extend the water works in that city at a cost of $1,250,000, this making the entire cost $5,000,000. This is considered cheap. People of such cities understand that no amount of money is misspent that affords the people daily a supply of water adequate to all emergencies. The water works in Boston cost $10,000,000, and she is preparing to rebuild. Everywhere the supply of water is considered so important that money is spent freely to provide such a supply—except in Toledo. We see the necessity for water works as much as we do the necessity for street improvements. Still, while we push forward the improvement of streets we neglect the other project, and harbor as an excuse the expense. This is poor policy.

The Earl of Chesterfield died on Friday from typhus fever. As he contracted the disease in the same locality and at the same time as the Prince of Wales contracted the disease that has so prostrated him, the inference is drawn that this necessarily makes the recovery of the Prince of Wales more doubtful. The conclusion does not follow. The dangerous character of the disease has been understood from the first, and the case has been treated by the most experienced physicians. That his companion, the Earl of Chesterfield, did not recover is a fact that has little bearing on the case of the Prince of Wales, only so far as indicating the character of the disease. The deceased, Philip Cecil Arthur Stanhope, Earl of Chesterfield, was the seventh Earl, and was born in 1831. He succeeded to the Earldom in 1866, and acted in the House of Lords with the Conservative party, but declared that he was not opposed to "moderate and well considered reforms." He was at one time Lieutenant in the Royal Horse Guards, and in virtue of his title was Hereditary Governor of Repton School.

The fact that the revolutionists in Mexico, have captured the two coast cities Mazatlan and Guaymas, is not considered significant. We cannot shut our eyes to the fact, however, that Mazatlan is one of the most important seaport towns on the Pacific Coast in Mexico, and that however easy its capture was, its possession is a matter of some consequence. This city, in the State of Sinaloa, is the port of the neighboring districts, and if there is any trade at all, it is controlled by the rebels. Guaymas is in the State of Sonora, and, we believe, is the only port of entry for the State. The harbor is excellent, and all merchandise destined for the interior of Sonora and Chihuahua comes by the way of Guaymas. If the raid on these two places was made only for the money of the custom house, the occupation will be short sure-ly. If the Diaz party is thoroughly crushed the occupation means something more.

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The fireiness of Jewish customs and characteristics is a matter of history, and any change would seem to be a breaking from old landmarks that is difficult to accomplish. Nevertheless, under the influence of American ideas, action has been taken looking to changes of great importance, and seems to place the eventual Americanization of at least a considerable number of the German Jews residing in this country beyond a doubt. The change has come from the Israelites themselves, and is marked by a peculiar softening of strong national characteristics. Some of the most intelligent Jews of New York have subscribed money for the purpose of translating the principal works of Hebrew literature into the English language. The works to be translated are not exclusively in the Hebrew language, many of them being in German. The last conference of Jewish rabbis at Cincinnati resolved that in Jewish worship the prayers and hymns should in future be in English instead of German. Although doubtless to many Jews of German origin, Germany is still revered as the Fatherland, this edition of the Bible will doubtless be acceptable.

GOSSIP.

It is now said that Miss Kellogg will not go to San Francisco.

In Germany five daily and fourteen weekly papers have female editors.

The life of Count Montalembert is to be written by Mrs. Oliphant, the novelist.

Mrs. Halloway, recently of the *Revolution*, accepts an editorial position upon the Brooklyn *Eagle*.

Ernest Renan, with his wife, daughter of the late Ary Scheffer, has reached Naples, where they propose passing the winter.

The King of Greece has imported fifty young hickory trees to ornament his park at Athens.

Henry Lafayette, an old soldier of the first Napoleon, is now in an asylum at Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

The largest salary paid to a railroad official in the United States is $30,000, and President Gowan of the Reading road, gets it.

It is said that Disraeli has allowed himself to be enrolled as a member of an Orange Lodge.

Mrs. Laura Fair, during her imprisonment has dramatized Owen Meredith's poem, "Lucille."

The King of Dahomey attended a grand feast the other day, wearing a quantity of druggists' labels as decorations.

There is a report that George William Curtis is to become editor-in chief of the New York *Times* on the 1st of January.

Mrs. Laura D. Fair has dramatized Owen Meredith's "Lucille," by way of relieving the tedium of confinement under the death sentence.

Rochefort is to be confined on the Island of Sainte Marguerite, Provence, and will, it is said, occupy the same cell in which the man of the iron mask was immured.

Mr. David Sanders, a philologist, has published a dictionary of the German language, upon which he spent thirty-five years.

The noted chiefs Satanta and Big Tree, convicted of murdering white men, have commenced their life service in the Huntsville, Texas, Penitentiary.

The higher toned pickpockets in Sing Sing recently assaulted and robbed the abortionist, Rosenzweig, for presuming to intrude on their company.

Very Rev. P. Bede O'Connor, of the Indianapolis diocese, is one of the three named forwarded to the Chancellor for the vacant Bishopric of Fort Wayne, Ind.

Mrs. Abby Sage Richardson announces that having suffered pecuniarly by the Chicago fire she is necessitated to take the lecture field.

Miss Cushman says that her present Lady Macbeth is a more complete realization of her conception of the character, than any she has given in former years.

Mrs. Sarah J. Hale, editress of Godey's Lady's Book, is eighty-four years old, and still labors constantly at the work which has employed her for the last forty-four years.

A German tailor of Stuttgardt claims to be a son of the Duke of Reichstadt (the son of Napoleon I. and Maria Louisa, of Austria) and real heir to the imperial throne of France.

A Savannah paper announces the presence of "six Apache Indians, with their peculiar costumes, dances, songs, &c." It is the "&c." that makes the Apache interesting in his native wilds.

A Terre Haute physician advocates the use of soft instead of hard water as a beverage, claiming that the lime with which the latter is impregnated causes premature gray hair and baldness.

An exchange has the following: Of course, Miss Alcott's "Morning Glories are very different from her "Little Women," because morning glories occasionally shut up, while—(Yes, Dorathella, dear, coming!)

John R. Thompson, the poet, for many years editor of the *Southern Literary Messenger*, and at present on the editorial staff of the New York *Evening Post*, is the New York correspondent of the London *Standard*.

Mr. McLeod, of London, states officially that he has attended the Queen for over thirteen years, and declares that all reports that Her Majesty had shown symptoms of mental weakness are unqualifiedly false.

General Adam Badeau, whose "Military History of General Ulysses S. Grant" has remained incomplete for several years, will publish the second volume in December. General Badeau is American Consul in London.

Horace Greeley, of New York, announces his retirement from the Bureau of Immigration, on account of his name being used in connection therewith as an inducement to immigrants to deposit money in one of the broken savings banks of the above city.

BLOOM OF YOUTH
BEAUTIFIES THE COMPLEXION
WOMAN'S BEAUTY.

Ladies who demand a rare excellent article for the Toilet—or none—generally accept George W. Laird's "Bloom of Youth," so universally admitted as the best and purest article extant. So say the major portion of the fair sex, and their decree must be law. It gives beauty without gloss, never injuring the skin by application, and causes the daughter of Eve to look as fair and as beautiful as a rose in the richest profusion. This delightful and pure harmless Toilet preparation is used by the million. It has no equal for removing Tan, Freckles, and all discolorations. The "Bloom of Youth" works like a charm, removing and destroying all such blemishes. Ladies if you desire a pleasant and safe thing and to retain your beauty, procure a bottle of this truly wonderful and valuable toilet article. Beware of worthless imitations. Remember the Genuine State universal Revenue stamp is printed on the front label and the name G. W. Laird is blown on the bottle. No other is genuine.

Ladies who are content to obtain the genuine George W. Laird's "Bloom of Youth" will certainly be pleased by its speedy effects. Sold at all Druggists and Fancy Goods Dealers everywhere.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2, 1871.

The city is filling up rapidly with members of Congress and strangers; and what with the upturning of streets, the gangs of sable workmen at every corner and on every thoroughfare and the car loads of new comers, Washington presents a scene of activity not witnessed before since the close of the war. The two Houses at the Capitol and the various committee rooms are ready for the expected occupants, and next week will witness the beginning of the new session with a full attendance of members.

It is announced that Mr. Bowen, lately on trial in this city for his double marriage, is to have the seat for which he was a contestant, his antagonist having withdrawn from the field. It also appears that the contest in Mr. Schenck's district, in your State, must be decided in favor of Mr Schenck in consequence of the acknowledged frauds; but as Mr. Schenck is not here to occupy the seat, there will probably be an election to fill the vacancy.

Our Cabinet still keeps up its habit of straggling, and its sessions are seldom full. This week half of the heads of departments were away; but the meeting of Congress will recall them to their places.

The Metropolitan chimes, from which so much was expected, and which called together such a multitude of people on Thanksgiving day, have proved to be a great disappointment. The fact that they were not in proper tune can be remedied, but their obscure and feeble tone will not be so easy to obviate; and in order to renovate public morals and to properly reform mankind, it is necessary that the tone should be silvery and the vocal effect without a flaw.

The Thanksgiving dinner at the White House was a family affair only, embracing the Presidential household, together with Rev. Dr. Newman, and Mrs. Newman. Mr. Kelso, the liberal Baltimorean, who contributed so largely for the Metropolitan steeple and chime; and Attorney General Akerman.

Our newspapers say that the Civil Service Commission has already had one good effect. The dismissal and appointment of clerks at the meeting of Congress which they represent as usually very large, has, this year, been scarcely more than the average, owing as they say, to the dread of the rigid examinations which have been instituted. It is claimed that the pressure on the part of Congressmen is less than usual, and that applications are greatly diminished.

The letter of John Quincy Adams in favor of the "no departure," or the abandonment of the field by the Democratic party, is another indication of the complete surrender contemplated by the amendment-smashers and negro haters; who are now so earnest to have the country forget their history, that they actually propose to go out of sight; and, if they hold a Convention, will do so, not to nominate a candidate, but to declare that they are not in the field, and do not propose to enter the lists to compete for the Presidential prize. This they do, nominally, to defeat Grant, which Mr. Adams says must be accomplished "at any sacrifice." But the real cause is, that the old issues are hopeless; that their platform of party hate is a failure; that their war record must be forgotten; and that they must put themselves in a position to oppose the administration without carrying with them that carcass of death, "the last cause." But it is to be feared that even this "hyssop branch" will hardly suffice to wash the "deadly sins" away.

The subscriptions which are being publicly raised by the Democracy of South Carolina for the defence of the Ku Klux leaders, give rise to some comments here on the ground that they implicate the party in the murderous doings of the Klan. A common murderer would hardly get the sympathy of a whole party; but a murderer who does the work of his principals must be defended by them.

There is some alarm on account of the threatened invasion of small pox, which is here already in a few insulated cases, but which is dreaded in a more virulent form. The disease, as it now prevails in Philadelphia and other cities, appears to be of a malignant type, and is the regular confluent small pox which was formerly so fatal. Our Board of Health is seeking to prepare us for its visitation, and also to guard us against its approaches.

Speaker Blaine has been here for several weeks, and it is understood has about completed his difficult task of arranging the committees. This is a matter of more than usual interest on account of the sharp fight which the free traders are making, for a tariff based on the theory of the greatest possible freedom. It is not known what is the exact cast of the committees, but it is not expected that the Speaker will be forgetful of New England interests in his programme for the business of the session.

BROKEYE.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Morgan Powell, foreman of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, was shot Saturday evening by an unknown person. Powell died Monday forenoon.

Eliza Musser, of Cincinnati, a colored woman, was fatally burned on Monday evening by a stove upsetting upon her.

An official denial is made of the truth of the rumor which prevailed at Madrid on Saturday, that Great Britain and the United States had threatened to intervene in the affairs of Cuba.

The N. Y. *Tribune* has the following: Chas. O'Connor has gone to Albany to oppose the motion for a reduction of Tweed's bail. The application for a reduction of Connolly's bail to half a million, will probably be granted by Judge Brady.

Dorsey's celebrated stallion Gold Dust, died Sunday of inflamation of the bowels. The horse was one of the most famous in the country, and was the sire of many celebrated horses. A few days since the owner was offered $50 000 for him.

In consequence of the continuance and frequent commission of murderous assaults on German soldiers in France, all provinces still occupied by the armed forces of Germany are declared in a state of siege. The perpetrators of such crimes will hereafter be tried by German court martials on the spot. Odo Russell, Minister from Great Britain to Germany, on Monday presented his credentials to the Emperor.

The trial of Mrs. Wharton indicted for the murder of General Ketchum, commenced on Monday at Annapolis, Md. The court room was densely crowded.—Mrs. Wharton entered the court room in a quiet manner and took a seat in the witness box. Chief Judge Oliver Miller, a few minutes after, took his seat on the bench, and the Court was opened. Mrs. Wharton then proceeded to the prisoner's box where she quietly took a stand, and her daughter deeply veiled, with her head slightly bowed, stood close to her left, but outside the box. Mrs. Wharton was then arraigned for the murder of General Ketchum and pleaded "not guilty."—Only eight jurors were accepted.

The generosity of the Navy has sent a quantity of confidence clothing to the sufferers by the fires in the Northwest.

The promulgation of an encyclical from the Pope against the installation of the Italian parliament in Rome, is expected in a few days.

Mr. Medill, the new Mayor of Chicago, has withdrawn from editorial connection with the *Tribune*, which will continue as long as he remains Mayor.

A delegation of Mormons left Salt Lake for Washington on Sunday with a view of securing proper legislation to protect polygamous tenets in their religion.

The President's message is published by all the Salt Lake papers, but there are no comments from the Mormon press.—The portion on the subject on Utah affairs is heartily approved by the Gentiles.

Two members of the New York Chamber of Commerce have gone to Chicago to supervise the distribution of the relief fund, of which there is still on hand $660,000.

The Territorial Legislature of New Mexico assembled at San a Fe Tuesday. The Republicans have united and controlled the organization of both houses. Governor Giddings will read his message to-day. Weather very cold.

At 4 o'clock Tuesday afternoon Governor Campbell sent his message to the lower branch of the Wyoming Legislature, vetoing the bill repealing the woman suffrage act.

It has been discovered that several of the cast iron cylinders sustaining the new high bridges across the Missouri river at Omaha, have been badly cracked by the frost between high and low water mark.

A suit is now in progress at Omaha between the Union Pacific and T. C. Durant to compel the latter to deliver to the Railroad Company about a million dollars worth of property deeded to him by individuals in trust for the Railroad Company in 1853 and 1854.

The weather has been intensely cold in Chicago. The thermometer early this morning indicated seven to twelve degrees below zero according to the locality. The effect has been to almost entirely suspend work in the burnt district.

A fierce northeast gale prevailed all Tuesday in Massachusetts, blowing down chimneys and damaging unfinished buildings. The chimney of the Bay State gasworks at Cambridge was overturned and crashed through the iron roof, causing serious damage.

Full returns from all wards in the city of Pittsburgh, except six, which cannot materially change the result, elect Blackmore, independent, Mayor over Morgan, Republican, by 1,274 majority. Magee, Republican, is elected County Treasurer by about 1,000 majority.

The report of the Southern Claims Commission is to be submitted to Congress next Monday. About 500 claims have been concluded, three-quarters of which are in favor of claimants, though the aggregate amount is reduced from one million six hundred thousand dollars to less than five hundred thousand dollars.

The National Tobacco Convention of the United States met in Washington on Tuesday. Among the members present are Mr. Spence of Cincinnati, and Peifer of St. Louis. The object of the Convention is to obtain a uniform tax of sixteen cents a pound on all kinds of manufactured tobacco, and to abolish the tax on sales now exacted of manufacturers and dealers.

The Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company has got its new freight house so far advanced in the North Division as to be able to manage its freight business with despatch. The Michigan Central Railroad Company has also completed its freight house at the foot of Lake street, and is fully able to handle conveniently all freight that comes. The Company has now put under good substantial slate roofs 50,000 square feet of floor surface for freight purposes.

General Sherman's report praises the zeal and efficiency of the army, and expresses the hope that Congress will remove the restriction and give the President discretionary power to keep companies up to the standard, ranging between sixty and one hundred privates, according to the nature of the service required of the troops. Such a measure would add very much to the efficiency, and would rarely, if ever, carry the aggregate strength of the active army above the standard of 30,000 men now fixed by law. The General now asks that some uniform system of tactics be adopted for handling all arms of the service.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 5.—Harvey Nation, of South Union township, Ross county, was killed yesterday afternoon while putting a barrel of vinegar in his cellar. He was found at the bottom of the cellar with the barrel resting on his head, which was shockingly crushed. There being no one present, the immediate cause of the accident is left to conjecture. It is supposed however, that while taking it down, the barrel got the advantage of him, and rushing down the cellar way, carried him before it, and concluded the terrible accident by rolling over his body and head after it had reached the floor.

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—The burr still connected with the distillery of G. G. Hussel, on Third avenue, exploded this noon, instantly killing George Bennett, burr runner, and seriously injuring George Ladd, tub washer, and another employe, name unknown. The building was completely demolished. Loss about $15 000

NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—A special despatch from Matamoras, Mexico, of Dec 5th, says the rebel General Trevinoh, has taken Saltillo with a heavy loss on both sides. The government troops still hold possession of the French forts on the outskirts. The rebels control the position from two points, and its surrender is hourly expected. Quiroga, the rebel commander, is organizing in Monterey for futher operations. Carbina the government commander of the river, still waits the result of Trevinoh and Quiroga. The movements of the commander here, conceals all the news. This is considered unfavorable to the government. The telegraphic and mail communication with the interior is entirely suspended.

Australian dates of October 17th state that the American steamship Nevada was bonded to satisfy damages claimed for sinking the bark Badger.

Tin and gold mines are alleged to have been discovered.

Coal shipments to California have about ceased.

The Polynesians had expelled all the whites. A war steamer had been sent there.

American dealers had purchased a fair quantity of wool and three ships were loading wool for the Eastern States.

The Society of Friends are holding revival meetings in Brooklyn. A number of prominent speakers from the West are present.

THE NEW YORK PRESS ON THE MESSAGE.

The Tribune, commenting on the President's message, says: "On the whole we find much more to approve than to condemn in this message. We believe that it will be favorably regarded by a large majority of the American people."

The Times says of the policy of the President, set forth in the message: "We are much mistaken if the most exacting can find in it any recommendation of oversight on which to base serious complaint. It will strengthen the intelligent faith of the people in its sound sense and sympathy with the better feeling of the country."

The Tribune says: "On the whole, we consider Mr. Blaine's cast at the Committees a good one, and we congratulate the House and country in the distribution of the labors which promises energy and efficiency in the dispatch of business."

THE MESSAGE ABROAD.

LONDON, Dec. 6.—President Grant's message is favorably received. The papers generally express satisfaction with the spirit in which he deals with the relations between the two nations, and the opinion is almost unanimous that the condition of the country was never more flatteringly exhibited.

THE CATACAZY CORRESPONDENCE.

A dispatch from Washington says the correspondence in the case of Catacazy, the late Russian Minister, will be called for in the Senate to-morrow. It will probably be promptly sent in on Wednesday.

THE REVOLUTION IN VENEZUELA.

A Venezuela date of the 15th of November states that the revolutionists succeeded in taking the town of Zulia, after a battle in which they captured some four hundred prisoners. Pulger leads the revolutionists, who have extended their line around Maracaibo.

N. Y. WORLD ON THE MESSAGE.

The World severely criticises various portions of the President's message, and says that it was a great deal more dry recital, such as the chief clerks of the different departments are capable of furnishing, and which alert newspaper correspondents anticipated, while events were still fresh and had the character of news.

PARIS, Dec. 5, (evening.)—Thiers appears to have made up his mind to oppose the admission of the Orleans Princes to the National Assembly, and the Princes to day waited upon him for the purpose of listening to an exposition of the reasons influencing him against their taking seats, and of endeavoring by argument to change his decision. The President received the Princes courteously, but owing to the pressure of public business, was unable to hear or reply to them to-day. He however appointed an interview for Friday night, at which time he will be prepared to develop fully his reasons for restraining them from taking seats in the Assembly.

Forty-Second Congress--Second Session

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.

The Speaker announced the Standing Committees as follows:

Elections—McGeary, Iowa; Hoar, Mass.; Thomas, N. C.; Perry, Ohio; Hazleton, Wis.; Eames, R. I.; Arthur, Ky.; Merrick, Md.; Rice, Ill.

Ways and Means—Dawes, Mass.; Maynard, Tenn.; Kelley, Penn.; Brooks, N. Y.; Finkelburg, Mo.; Burchard, Illinois; E. H. Roberts, N. Y.; Kerr, Indiana; Beck, N. Y.

Appropriations—Garfield, Ohio; Sargent, Cal.; Dickey, Pa.; Clark, N. Y.; Palmer, Iowa; Hale, Me.; Niblack, Ind.; Marshall, Illinois; Swann, Md.

Banking and Currency—Hooper, Mass.; Waldron, Mich.; Smith, Vt.; Farrell, Ills.; Monroe, Ohio; Merriam, N. Y.; Cox, N. Y.; Randall, Pa.; Cox, Ala.

Pacific Railroad—Wheeler, N. Y.; Buffington, Mass.; Lynch, Me.; Sapper, La.; Killinger, Pa.; Beveridge, Ill.; Haughton, Cal.; Averill, Minn.; Wells, Mo.; McKinney, Ohio; Smith Ely, jr., N. Y.; Harper, N. C.; McKinney, Ky.

CLAIMS—Blair, Mich.; Strong, Ct.; Buckley, Ala.; Holman, Ind.; Smith, N. Y.; Fry, Me.; Foster, Ohio; Harris, Va.; Foster, Pa.

Commerce—Shellabarger, Ohio; Sawyer, Wis.; Lynch, Me.; Conger, Mich.; Sheldon, La.; Negley, Pa.; S Holman, Ind.; Hamblerton, Md.; Townsend, N. Y.

Public Lands—Ketchum, N. Y.; Townsend, Pa.; Hawley, Ill.; Kelleer, Conn.; Dunnell, Minn.; Busk, Miss.; McCormick, Mo.; Ritchie, Mo.; Slater, Oregon.

Post Offices and Post Roads—Farnsworth, Ill.; Hill, N. J.; Whitcnell, Mass.; Tyner, Ind.; Randall, Pa.; Porter, Va.; Houghton, Cal.; VanTromp, Ohio; Carrol, N. Y.

Manufactures—S. Burnett, Mo.; Ames, Mass.; Upson, O.; Stowell, Va.; Velarge, S. C.; Rice, Ky.; Rogers, N. Y.; Stevens, Ill.; McClelland, Pa.; Mitchell, Wis.; Williams, N. Y.

Agriculture—Wilson, O.; Hayes, Ala.; Havens, Mo.; Lairport, N. Y.; Speer, Ga.; Hazelton, N. J.; Holden, Pa.; Garrett, Tenn.; Crossland, Ky.

Indian Affairs—Shanks, Ind.; Burdett, Mo.; Smith, O.; Averill, Minn.; Creeley, Pa.; Edwards, Ark.; Adams, Ky.

Military Affairs—Conger, Ind.; Stoughton, Mich.; Hayes, Ill.; Donnan, Iowa; Morey, La.; Harris, Mass.; Slocum, N. Y.; Campbell, O.; Terry, Va.

Militia—Sheldon, La.; Sprague, Ohio; Twitchell, Mass.; Wells, Fla.; Rush, Wis.; Coffroth, Texas; Blair, Mo.; Acker, Penn.; Twitchell, N. Y.

District of Columbia—Starkweather, Conn.; Williams, Ind.; Pollard, Va.; Darrell, La.; Hermer, Penn.; Colfax, Iowa; Eldridge, Wis.; Crebs, Ill.; Roosevelt, N. Y.

Judiciary—Bingham, Ohio; Butler, Mass.; Peters, Me.; Mercer, Penn.; Wilson, Ind.; Gooderich, N. Y.; Eldridge, Wis.; Voorhees, Ind.; Porter, N. Y.

Revolutionary Claims—Wallace, S. C.; Pendleton, R. I.; Prindle, N. Y.; McJunkin, Penn.; Stowell, Va.; Cornings, Mo.; Hancock, Texas; Handley, Ala.; Forger, N. J.

Public Expenditures—Sawyer, Wisconsin; Strong, Conn.; Whitely, Ga.; Lowe, Ks.; Foster, Mich.; Kinkaid, N. Y.; Meyers, Penn.; Davies, W. Va.; Reed Ky.

Private Land Claims—Mercer, Pa; Upson Ohio; McGrew, W Va; Smith, N Y; Cogaliu, Cal; Bracer, Wis; Haloeman, Pa; Bell, N Y; Bright, Tenn.

Naval Affairs—Scofield, Pa; Starkweather, Ct; Kelgham, N Y; Hayes, Ala; Platt, Va; Coghlin, Cal; Archer, Md; Sutherland, Mich; Whitehouse, Tenn.

Foreign Affairs—Banks, Mass; Myers, Pa; Willard, Vt; Amber, O; Duell, N Y; Packard, Md; Wood, N Y; Morgan, O; Robinson, Illinois.

Territories—Tuffe, Neb; McKee, Miss; Prindle, N Y; Parker, Mo; Lowe, Ks; Shoemaker, Pa; Bayram, Ct; Vaughan, Tenn; Howard, W Va.

Revolutionary Pensions and War of 1812—Millard, Vt; Porter, Va; Eames, R I; Cobb, N C; Sprague, O; Rice, Ky; Fisk, N J; Caldwell, Tenn.

Invalid Pensions—Moore, Ill; Fork, O; Wallace, S. C.; Mederkin, Pa.; Wakeman, N Y.; Fimer, Ala.; Bird, N. J; Monson, Ind.; Speer, Pa.

Railways and Canals—Parker, Pa.; Ames, Mass; Halsey, N. J.; Morphis, Mo.; Knapp, Ill.; St. John, N Y; Briggs, Del.; Winchester, Ky.; Lawrison, O.

Mines and Mining—Waldron, Mich.; Sargeant, Cal.; Banks, Mass.; Smith, Va.; Negley, Pa.; Sessions, N. Y.; Shaler, N. C.; Young, Ga.; Kimball, Nev.

Freedmen's Affairs—Cobb, N. C.; Brooks, Mass; Butler, Tenn.; Sesley, N Y.; Snyder, Ark.; Rainey, S. C.; Griffith, Penn.; Braxton, Ky.; King, Mo.

Education and Labor—Pierce, Miss.; Hoar, Mass.; Townsend, Pa.; Butler, Tenn.; Bunnell, Minn.; Elliott, S. C.; McKeeley, Ill.; Storm, Pa; McIntyre, Ga.

Revision of Laws of the United States—Butler, Mass.; Poland, Vt.; Ambler, Ohio; Lansing, N. Y.; Killinger, Pa.; Bigley, Ga.; Leach, S. C.; Sherwood, Pa.; Sloss, Ala.

Coinage, Weights and Measures—Kelly, Pa.; Hooper, Mass.; Beatty, Ohio; Staughton, Mich.; Cutler, Va.; Roberts, N. Y.; Parker, N. H.

Patents—Myers, Pa.; Stimson, of Ohio; Brooks, Mass.; Barry, Miss.; Waldron, Iowa; Warren, N Y.; Hibbard, N H.; Golladay, Tennessee; Daniels, Ga.

Public Buildings and Grounds—Halsey, N J.; Tyner, Ind.; Platt, Jr, Va.; Orr, Iowa; Farwell, Ill.; Kessions, N Y.; Getz, Pa.; Wells, Mo.; Perry, N Y.

Mileage—McGrew, W Va.; Darrell, La.; Hamilton, New Jersey; Golladay, Tennessee; Blair, Mo.

Accounts—Buffington, Mass.; Sawyer, Wis.; Harris, Miss.; Archer, Md.; Lewis, Ky.

Expenditures in State Department—Conger, Mich.; Whitely, Ga.; Havens, Mo.; Rogers, N Y.; Myers, Pa.

Expenditures in Treasury Department—Lynch, Me.; Sapher, La.; Hay, Ill.; Barnum, Ct.; Kendall, Nev.

Expenditures in War Department—Williams, Ind.; Barber, Wis.; Snyder, Ark.; Acker, Kinsell, N Y.

Expenditures in Navy Department—Kellogg, Conn.; Parker, Ind.; Hostetter, Wis.; Pigg, Del.; and Tutchill, N. Y.

Expenditures in Post Office Department—Barry, Miss.; Hosmer, Pa.; Bigby, Georgia; Roberts, N. Y.; Beasley, N. C.

Expenditures in Interior Department—Hills, N. J.; Smith, Ohio; Beveridge, Ills.; Adams, N. Y.; Conger, Texas.

Expenditures on Public Buildings—Hosley, Ills.; Murphis, Miss.; Shoemaker, Pa.; Woodley Duke, Va.

Rules—Speaker Banks, Mass.; Garfield, Ohio; Cox, N. Y.; Randall, Pa.

Printing—Beatly, Ohio; Pendleton, R. I.; Price, Ga.

Library—Peters, Me.; Wheeler, N. Y.; Campbell, Ohio.

Enrolled Bills—Buckley, Ala.; Foster, Mich.; Bird, N. J.

Joint Select Committee of Insurrectionary States—Poland, Vt.; Maynard, Tenn.; Scofield, Pa.; Farnsworth, Ill.; Coburn, Ind.; Stevenson, Ohio; Butler, Mass.; Lansing, N. Y.; Cox, N. Y.; Beck, Ky.; Van Trump, Ohio, Waddell, N. C.; Robinson, Ills.; Hawks, Ark.

Select Committee on Mississippi Levees—Morey, La.; Waldron, Iowa; McKee, Miss. Getz, Pa.; Duke, Va.

Who is Sir Charles Dilke?

From the Philadelphia Press.

Within a very short time the above question has been repeatedly asked, and the news of this morning gives it additional interest. In 1830 Mr. Charles Wentworth Dilke, a government clerk in Somerset House, London, purchased the copyright of the *Athenæum*, which had been (we cannot say "established," for it had a very precarious infancy) started by Mr. James Silk Buckingham in opposition to the *Literary Gazette*, for many years conducted with great success by Mr. William Jerdan. After Mr. Buckingham had failed to infuse vigorous life into the *Athenæum*, he sold out to John Sterling, of whom Thomas Carlyle wrote a well known biography in 1851. Sterling, then about twenty-two years old, and eager to write, had Mr. Frederick Maurice, now Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Cambridge, as his assistant in the editorship, and the character of the *Athenæum* was speedily changed and elevated in their hands. But there was a want of capital to carry on the concern and Sterling and Maurice, tired of working not only without payment, but at a loss, gave in. Just then Mr. Dilke, in connection with a gentleman named Martin, who had money, bought out the two young proprietors and editors "for a song," as the saying is. Mr. Dilke, having edited a collection of old plays, and being intimate with the coterie in which Lamb, Hood, and Reynolds were shining lights, undertook the editorship, with assistance from able contributors who were respectably paid, and almost immediately quadrupled the circulation of the *Athenæum* by lowering the price one-half, and increasing its size. It has been successfully edited, after him, by Mr. T. K. Hervey, M. W. Hepworth Dixon, and Dr. John Doran; has long stood almost alone in London as a weekly publication of literature, science, and art, and is understood to yield a considerable annual income. Mr. Dilke ceased to be editor in 1846; became manager of the *Daily News* in 1849; but did not make it profitable, and soon retired from the effort. He died in 1864.

His only son, also Charles Wentworth Dilke, born in 1810, received an university education, and so very active as a member of the Executive Committee of the World's Fair in 1851 that, at the instance of Prince Albert, head of that Commission, he was offered Knighthood, which he declined. He was appointed Commissioner for the Great Exhibition of 1862, and had been created a Baronet in the preceding year. He was elected M. P. in 1865 for the borough of Wallingford, as a Liberal, but never once opened his lips in the House of Commons. He died in 1869.

The present Sir Charles Wentworth Dilke, who succeeded to the title and also to the proprietorship of the *Athenæum*, was born in 1843. In 1867-8 he travelled through the United States, India and Australia, and the result was an able work entitled "Greater Britain," published in 1868. At the general election in the autumn of 1868 he was elected member of Parliament for Chelsea, which had been recently created a Parliamentary borough. He stood a severe contest, his opponent on the Conservative side being Dr. W. H. Russell, of Bull Run notoriety. In 1869 he succeeded to the title, Sir Charles Dilke has taken his side in politics among the band, few but bold, who advocate extremely liberal principles. He has spoken often and well in Parliament, particularly during the session of 1871, and, being now little more than 28 years old, may be considered one of the most rising young men of the day. His recent exposure of the cost ($5 000 000 a year) of royalty in England has brought him before the public in bold relief, and he makes no secret of his wish to see the monarchy ousted and a republic established in England. Some sarcastic people have suggested that he could show the earnestness of his Republican faith by laying aside the hereditary title which he holds and reducing himself to plain Mr. Dilke.

Beecher's Homily on a Negro Baby.

From the Carlisle Union.

Riding in a street car, the other day, we had occasion to notice a colored woman with her baby. The little bonnie-brown specimen of humanity was making the atmosphere vibrant with a yell of defiant protest against some of the limitations which oppressive maternity is wont to inflict on childhood. Somehow it seemed odd to us. We could not remember that we ever heard a negro baby cry before. They had always appeared such dumbly patient velvet things, almost justifying the suspicion that they were indeed of a different blood from ours. But this chap howled as lustily as the spoiledest white baby in the world, and scratched and kicked and bit to match. Was this a type of the transition state of the oppressed race, on its way to complete manhood?

And so we set to thinking on the rapidity with which our colored brethren are vindicating their claim to genuine kindred with the race which has kept them down so long, by a most successful imitation of its vices. It is not merely in the reproduction of the "impossible" chignon, and a reasonable approximation to the noblest cut of the "long-tailed blue," that our newly found relatives are justifying the title of "imitative race," which has always been accorded to them. They are holding up to us, every day, in weightier matters, a mirror, which scarcely tends to increase our self-complacency. We have not only negro rowdies, and negro regulators, in the region where, for so many years, negroes have suffered most from those true scions of American liberty, Negroes stuff ballot boxes, and bribe legislators, and plot in cabals to put up their own color and put down other colors. Yes, burnt umber leagues with sepia, and conspires against india ink. Colored churches quarrel, colored ministers put on airs, colored Lotharios "woo where they never mean to wed"—in short, in every particular they reproduce a picture of the highest and most exquisite white civilization. It is as though they had said, "The evil that you teach us, we will execute, and it shall go hard but we will better the instruction."

This calls to mind Sam Johnson, of New Orleans, a mulatto financier of an earlier day, but one who lived in advance of his generation. Sam was a great authority on the levee, and one day he called his statellites together and addressed them on the importance of adopting a fiscal policy more nearly resembling that which had raised to opulence their Caucasian neighbors. "Niggers," said he, "if you want to git rich, you must save you money. You must have a bank. Dat's de way de white folks does." These words fell on a propitious soil. The project went into swift execution, and the earnings of the week were promptly forthcoming. "Niggers," says Sam, "I'll be de cashier; you must 'posit the money wid me, and when you want say you must draw cash it. Dat's de way de white folks does." All went merrily for awhile, and the depositors were highly elated about "de bank." But by-and-by there begin to be trouble—not with the deposits, but the drafts. It was found easier to get money into this model institution than to get them out again, and Sam was compelled to face the angry customers and explain. "It's all right," says he, "de bank's only suspended, and in a few days she will 'again resume;' dat's de way de white folks does." This expedient lasted but a little while, however. Suspicions of foul play-cay by day increased, and the storm was about to burst on the head of the great operator, when he found it expedient to gather once more his infuriated depositors, and "face the music" frankly. "Niggers," said he, "dar ain't no use a mo'n about it! De money's spent, and de bank's broke; and dat's de way de white folks does."

A Boston Thief—How He Squandered His Money in the West.

From the Denver (Col.) News.

The Associated Press report yesterday announce that the young man Heine, (1) who recently robbed a Massachusetts bank of $25 000, had been arrested in San Francisco, and added that nearly all the money was found on his person. As we have referred casually to the young man on one or two occasions while he was stopping in Denver, we take this opportunity to inform our readers that he is the party who so lavishly disposed of and unwisely displayed his money, and for whom a party of Denver thieves put up a little game one night.

He was young, apparently unsophisticated, ready to make friends with strangers, and extremely anxious that they should become acquainted with the fact that he had plenty of money and stood in no danger of being "broke." From Kansas City to Denver, he traveled in company with three young men, all perfect strangers to him, and took upon himself the payment of their bills. He changed his name three times between the above named points, and when he got here, he had fixed upon Mr. Archer as the best cognomen by which to pass himself off. While here, he lived like a "fighting cock," enjoying his champagne suppers, scattering his money far and wide, lavishing costly presents on females, and paying the bills of a retinue of male companions. Inviting new made friends to his room, he would take from his trunk a package of greenbacks, which he said contained about $23 000, and assured his guests that he had plenty of funds. He was continually inquiring for a good business location, and announcing a dozen times a day that he had $23 000 to invest.

Meantime there were detectives on his track, "shadowing" him night and day, but he in his eighteen-year-old innocence had no idea that such was the case, and went on with the extravagant actions, which were sure to get him into the officer's hands. Spending about $1,000 in Denver, this Mr. Archer pulled up stakes and turned his face Pacific-ward. About as soon as he arrived in San Francisco, his unfamiliar but constant traveling companion at once arrested him, and he is now probably on his way back to Boston, to see his Pa, and answer for his crimes.

THE CATACAZY IMBROGLIO.

We have the following concerning the correspondence just sent to the Senate in regard to the recall of the late Ambassador from Russia:

The Catacazy correspondence is quite voluminous. The first letter is from Secretary Fish to Curtin, asking a recall of Catacazy. Fish says: "I am directed to inform you that the conduct of Mr. Catacazy, minister from Russia here, both official and personal, has, for some time past, been such as to materially impair his usefulness to his own Government, and to render intercourse with him for either business or social purposes, highly disagreeable. Under these circumstances the President is of the opinion that the interest of both countries would be promoted if the head of the Russian Legation here were changed."

Mr. Curtin, in reply to this letter, says that he waited upon the person acting in absence of Prince Gortschakoff, but that that individual declines to act.

Secretary Fish replies to Curtin that action must be had before the arrival of Alexis, as the President did not want Catacazy to introduce him.

Curtin replies that at an interview with Prince Gortschakoff he consented to recall Catacazy. Some parts of the correspondence are quite spicy and a newspaper correspondent is implicated in the machinations of the Russian Minister.

"It is the smallness of incomes and necessity of looking sharply to the means of life that makes the young people of Madrid so prudent in their love affairs. I know of no place where ugly heiresses are such belles, and where young men with handsome incomes are so universally esteemed by all who know them. The stars on the sleeves of young officers are more regarded than their dancing, and the red belt of a field officer is as winning in the eyes of beauty as a cestus of venus. A subaltern offered his hand and heart to a black eyed girl of Castile. She said kindly but firmly that the night was too cloudy. 'What,' said the stupefied lover, 'the sky is full of stars!' 'I see but one,' said the prudent beauty, her fine eyes resting pensively upon his cuff, where one lone luminary indicated his rank."

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Our splendid new illustrated poster for 1872 is just out, and with a specimen copy of the BLADE will be sent free and postage paid to all who apply for it. But we respectfully request those to whom it is sent to see that it is put up in some conspicuous place. It will be a good thing to laugh over and keep the blues away for a whole winter—especially if taken in connection with a weekly visit of the BLADE. In the latter case we warrant it. Try it.

A NEW DRESS.

For some time we have not been satisfied with the typographical appearance of the BLADE. Our pressman has done the best that could be done under the circumstances, but the utmost care on his part could not give the paper a satisfactory appearance, and we have accordingly decided on giving the BLADE a complete new dress as early in January as the type can be manufactured, and then we shall lay before our readers not only the best family newspaper published anywhere, but also one of the neatest.

CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

The U. S. Senate met at noon Dec. 4, with nearly a full attendance. In the House 261 members were present. In the Senate, Mr. Sumner presented petitions for the passage of a civil rights bill; Mr. Edwards introduced a bill authorizing compound interest notes as a substitute for legal tender notes; Mr. Ramsey, a bill to make Duluth a port of delivery and establish a Collection district at St. Paul; and Mr. Logan, a bill to provide for the relief of the sufferers by fire at Chicago. The last two were laid on the table. Several bills were introduced in the House and referred to the proper committees. On Tuesday, resolutions were adopted in the Senate calling for a report of the expedition of Capt. Selfridge to the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, and calling for the correspondence in the retirement of Catacazy. In the House a bill to revise, consolidate, and amend the statute relating to the Postoffice Department, introduced by Mr. Farnsworth, was discussed in connection with the question of a union telegraph and postal service. The latter subject, discussed in Committee of the Whole, was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

On Wednesday, in the Senate, Mr. Anthony introduced a bill to amend an act to enforce the right of citizens of the United States to vote in the several States of the Union, amending the 19th section of said act so as to prohibit employment of force, &c., to prevent the exercise of suffrage.

In the House, Mr. Banks offered a resolution calling on the President for instructions to naval commanders on foreign waters; for information regarding the recent executions in Havana; and relative to the failure of Spain to carry out the promises of reform in the West Indies. All of the resolutions were adopted.

Thursday, in the Senate, a petition was presented from colored citizens for supplementary rights—(tabled.) Mr. Pomeroy, of Kansas, presented a bill to unite the postal and telegraph services. Mr. Sumner gave notice of a bill to abolish the office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue and to reduce taxation.

On Monday, Dec. 11th, Mr. Sumner was, at his own request, relieved from the Chairmanship of the Committee on Privileges and Elections. The House Amnesty bill was reported from Committee and its passage recommended. Mr. Sumner introduced his bill to abolish the Internal Revenue ship and asked its reference to the Finance Committee.

In the House a bill was introduced by Mr. Banks to carry out the Treaty of Washington; and by Mr. Cox for a general amnesty without exception.

SURGEON GENERAL'S REPORT.

According to the report of the Surgeon General of the U. S. Army, the average mean strength of the army for the year ending June 30, 1871, was 29 365 white and 2,608 colored troops. Among the white troops, 519 deaths occurred—393 from disease and 156 from wounds, accidents and injuries. Ten hundred and ninety one white soldiers were discharged on Surgeon's certificate of disability. Among the colored troops there were 28 deaths from disease, and 21 from wounds, accidents and injuries.

Under the act for reissue of artificial limbs or commutation in mercy to those who did not desire limbs, 104 of those entitled to arms accepted in kind, and 4,067 the money; legs, 1,117 in kind and 3,114 in money; feet, five in kind, and 31 in money; apparatus for resection, 28 in kind, and 558 in money. Under this act, 2,398 soldiers applied who were not admitted under previous laws.

Fifty four vacancies are reported in the Medical corps of the army. The number of posts requiring medical attendance to 200, and the present force of medical officers is not adequate.

THE PRINCE OF WALES DYING.

The latest dispatch received from London says that the Prince of Wales is dying, and before this paper reaches our readers the heir to the British throne will have ceased to live. There is great excitement in England.

REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

Owing to the opening up of new post routes in the reconstructed States of the South and in the new settlements of the West the outlay of the Postoffice Department is in excess of its receipts about $4 350 000. The southern postal routes were all thrown into confusion by the war, and their re-establishment has been a heavy drain on the department. Yet the Postmaster General is firm in the opinion that the postal service can soon be made self supporting. Important as it may be to reach the desirable point of self support, it is much more essential that the usefulness of the department should be increased, all extraneous burdens be removed from it, and greater rapidity in the transmission of mails secured. By casting off the load of the franking privilege, the correction of other abuses, and the stoppage of leakages wherever they are discovered, the point of self support will soon be reached.

The Postmaster General has been a close observer of the workings of the new features of the postal systems of several countries in Europe. The most important of these is the postal telegraph system. This is no longer an experiment. Sweden, Norway, Russia, Italy, Turkey, Greece and Spain have employed the telegraph in their postal service, with an undeviating testimony in favor of its use. Switzerland, Belgium, the Neitherlands, Russia and France, with greater facilities and modern improvements in their favor, have taken the telegraph altogether under governmental control. For two years the experiment in Great Britain has been going on, and its success is most complete and undoubted. It was contended that the success of the trial in a few of the smaller nations would not warrant like experiment in countries of larger extent and population. But the experience of Great Britain shows that the larger the area of country and the heavier the population, the more valuable the system becomes both to the people and the government. Great Britain sends messages of twenty words all distances for twenty-four cents in United States money. In France the charge for the same number of words is only twenty cents. Switzerland sends the same for ten cents. The principle of the government system is to invest all net proceeds to the extension of telegraphic accommodations, and to decrease the charges to the lowest possible point. Of course independent lines have no motive to divide their profits with the people by giving them the advantage of cheap transmission of messages.

Cheap and rapid transmission of intelligence is, however, only a part of the advantages of the system. The government by having lines of its own, extending to all its officers and agents in the country, and reaching every community, would save a vast sum of money now paid into coffers of the telegraph lines. Telegraph companies only carry their lines where a paying business can be secured, while every part of the country would be brought in reach of telegraph by the government system.

The commercial cities of the country would reap large advantages from the adoption of this system. The cheaper the telegraphic tariff the more it will be employed in preference to correspondence by letter. The system will make the mails the wires' allies instead of competitors. The news of the people would be cheapened, and a much greater demand would be created for skilled labor. Thus all sorts of business would feel the quickening influence of this progressive feature in our governmental arrangements.

The plan of connecting Post Office Savings banks, with the Department, as practiced in England, is mentioned with favor. This feature we do not regard as of such pressing importance as the postal telegraph. It will encounter great opposition, and as private institutions generally do business to the satisfaction of their depositors, there is no urgent demand for the engrafting of the Savings bank system upon the Post office department. Though if a few more savings institutions like those managed by TWEED & Co., shall come to grief, the laboring men of the land may yet come to believe that the government would be, after all the safest custodian of their little surplus. The rate which Mr. CREISWELL proposes to pay is only four per cent., two or three per cent. less than the savings' banks are paying, yet, as he suggests, many depositors would prefer to trust the government in view of its entire reliability. The money order system is operated in such a way as to inspire the most complete confidence, and that may go far to prepare the people to accept this proposition with favor.

The report is in the direction of progress and reform. The Postmaster General very properly persists in demanding the abolition of the Franking abuse. Heavy wrongs do not succumb in a day, nor are beneficial improvements always adopted on the first suggestion. It is not a very elevating thought to consider that the monarchies of Europe should be teaching and leading us in the essential matter of serving the people with cheap intelligence, and that abuses like the franking privilege are so much easier to get rid off with them, than with us in free, enlightened, Republican America!

SPECIE PAYMENTS.

The return of specie payments can not be brought about by the command of a government official, any more than the waves of the sea can be stilled at his bidding. The Comptroller of the Currency makes a good point when he shows that in both England and America, whenever a doubt of credit incites the holders of currency the banks almost invariably find it necessary to suspend. Thus, specie payments are only successful when not needed, and they fail disastrously whenever any forcing process is applied. We remember a little over thirty years ago a Pennsylvania Governor issued a proclamation commanding the banks of his commonwealth to resume specie payments, but he only made himself a laughing stock to intelligent men. The truth is, far too much importance is attached to specie payments. So long as we are not overtrading with foreign countries, the premium on gold taxes nobody severely. The slight difference between the national currency and gold works harm nowhere. The steady advancement of the credit of the government is hastening the day of specie payments. It is not specie which the bill-holder wants, it is security against loss by depreciation. That is secured by our present currency system. Specie payments have been harped upon by demagogues for political effect, and superficial thinkers have been led to believe there was some very vital necessity in securing the instant convertibility of circulating notes into specie. The truth is that this should be one of our least concerns. The lack of a money supply is of vastly greater moment. A depreciated currency, great as we may admit its evils to be, is greatly to be preferred to an inadequate money supply. When currency depreciates the creditors paid with it lose in proportion to its diminished purchasing power, but after that no farther evil results. An inadequate money supply, howevever, stops the wheels of business and suspends the industries on which the bread of the people depends. Half a year's labor lost to a community would be like the devastation of an invading and conquering foe. We ought, as a people, to be thankful that we are suffering from neither of these evils.

A leading western journal, alluding to the question of currency and specie payments, says that there is no more mystery in dealing with them than with the details of a retail store. We do not see it in that light. There is a mystery about money, which even the most practical and profound men confess. And yet, as a modern writer well says; "Hardly one man in a thousand will refrain from repairing the machine, though he knows that the regulator and the motor force is to him inscrutable." And right here is apparent the wisdom of the government as now administered. The laws of commerce are well let alone—and hence the triumph we daily see in the improvement of the public credit, and the currency of the country so near the value of gold that it is of little account to most of us whether it comes any nearer or not. Convertibility of bills into specie would be a convenience, and hence we hail the approach of the day when specie payment shall be resumed. But the solvency of the currency, and an abundance of it for the demands of trade, are of much greater moment.

The charter of the Bank of England was framed with the design of making it not only unlawful but impossible for that institution to suspend specie payments. But in twenty-five years, under the compulsion of the very exigencies which the stringent provisions of the charter were designed to prevent or control, the authorities of England have suspended the anti suspension rule. The compulsory devices are not helps but often prove to be traps, which have to be broken. The many contrivances, and safety-guards, both in England and America have had to be swept away, whenever the occasions came for which they had been specially prepared. Three times in twenty years in England the merchants, manufacturers and laborers have asked the government for irredeemable paper, rather than to endure the arrest of production of trade. Our greenback currency, promising only to pay in taxes and old debts has kept the business of the country in full and victorious operation, without promising ever to pay in silver, and is now confessed to be one of best blessings of the period.

A western journal says the suggestion of the Comptroller to compel the banks to redeem their notes on demand, but to require deposits only to be paid in the kind of money deposited, would be like thawing out the canal, while allowing the lakes and rivers to be frozen, and then proclaiming navigation to be open. We do not see the matter in this light. When a bank redeems its own notes, it has thawed out its own ice, and done that much to send the ships of commerce afloat. To require it, at the same time, to thaw out all the icebergs which float in from waters other than its own, seems to us to be rather exacting. If even a canal should be thawed out, it would move boats on its line. That might be a convenience which it were folly to refuse because we could not thaw out the ice on all the surrounding lakes and streams.

But we are not desirous of seeing any forcing processes employed, not even the very mild one suggested by the Comptroller. Let us be content to continue in the stream which floats us so gently to the point which we wish to reach. We have more to fear from tinkering, meddling, and sudden transitions than from the slight inconveniences which may exist from a delay to return to specie payments.

☞ The Cleveland *Herald* pays the telegraphic operators and writers a compliment for the accuracy with which the President's message was transmitted over the wires. The *Herald* says that the achievement was the greatest triumph the wires have yet made, and the rendering of the Message "the best specimen of wire working yet achieved by chained lightning." The press will generally and heartily concur with the *Herald* in this opinion.

COINAGE OF THE UNITED STATES.

The annual report of the Director of the United States Mint gives not only a view of our coinage, but enters into the discussion of many topics that make it a paper of scientific value. Owing to the continued suspension of specie payment the capacity of the mint and branches is more than sufficient to meet every demand. It is estimated that the annual production of gold and silver will be more than doubled in the next decade. Even now the amount in value of gold and silver deposits exceeds that of previous years.

The deposits of bullion at the Mint and branches during the fiscal year were as follows: Gold, $37,054,202 26; silver, $5,975,982.54; total deposits, $43,030,184 80. Deducting from this total the redeposits, or bars made at one branch of the Mint and redeposited in another for coinage, the amount will be $39,137 404.13.

For the same period the coinage was as follows: Gold coin, number of pieces, 1,120,916; value, $21,302,473; unparted and fine gold bars, $13,101,089 42; silver coin pieces, 3,664,702; value, $1,955,905 25; silver bars, 2,544,180.13; nickel, copper, and bronze, pieces, 11,672,750; value, $283,760; total number of pieces struck, 16,458,458; total value of coinage $40,187,402 80.

The distribution of the bullion received and coined at the Mint and branches was as follows:

Philadelphia—Gold deposited, $3,064,733 81; gold coined, $3,206 706; fine gold bars, $129,184 88; silver deposited and parchased, $1,557,892.50; silver coined, $1 156,255 25; silver bars, $143,647 75; nickel, copper and bronze coinage, value, $283,760; total deposits of gold and silver, $4,622,625 81; total coinage, $4,910,067 88; total number of pieces, 13,670,015.

San Francisco—At the branch Mint, San Francisco, the gold deposits were $25,521,650 56; gold coined, $24,241,006 23; silver deposited and purchased, $937,577.89; silver coined, $908,015 27; total deposits and purchases, $26,459,228 45; total coinage, $25,149,031.50; total number of pieces, 2,649,000.

New York.—The assay office in New York received during the year in gold bullion, $6,345,338 88; in silver bullion, including purchases, $2,171,120 36; total value received, $8,516,459 24; number of fine gold bars stamped, 9,769; value, $6,461,801 10; silver bars, 10,765; value, $1,269,501 75; total value, gold and silver bars, stamped, $6,731,302 85.

Denver.—At the assay office, late branch mint, Denver, Colorado, the deposits for unparted bars were: gold, $1,104,147 10; silver, $18,561 63; total deposits, $1,122,708 73; an increase of deposits over the last year of $116,658 47. This is very gratifying, and encourages the belief that as the mineral resources of the district are developed, the business of this office will be correspondingly increased. It is now engaged, as last year, in melting, assaying and stamping gold and silver bullion in unparted bars, bearing the government stamp of weight and fineness. The assay office, in the performance of its appropriate functions, fully meets all the demands of the mining interests of Colorado.

Charlotte—The deposits at the branch mint at Charlotte, North Carolina, have not been large, and I regret to say, are not increasing. The deposits, as heretofore, are assayed and returned to depositors in the form of unparted bars. The deposits for bars during the year were; gold, $14,522 81; silver parted from gold, $145 31; total deposits, $14,668.12, a decrease from last year of $1,440 48.

Dahlonega and New Orleans.—The branch mints at these places are still closed. As stated in my last report, no necessity exists for their being opened again as assay offices or branch mints.

Carson City.—This branch mint has been in successful operation during the past fiscal year, and the prospects for the future are most encouraging.

The deposits during the year were—gold, $1,033,859 60; gold coined, $930,715; unparted gold bars, $731,320.79; silver deposits and purchases, $1,290,684 85; silver coined, $52,875; unparted and fine bars, $1,909,645.05; total deposits and purchases, $2,-234,494 45; total number of pieces, 158,543.

The deposits of the year ending June 30, 1871, exceeded in value those of the previous year more than two million dollars.

The redemption of the nickel copper cents in exchange for the five cent nickel coins was continued, as authorized by law, until the 25th day of March, A. D., 1871, at which time the law for the general redemption of all the base or token coinage went into operation. The amount thus redeemed to the 25th day of March, 1871, was, in pounds, 39,527; value, $38,736 46.

The amount of base coins redeemed under the act of March 3, 1871, to June 30, 1871, was in tale or nominal value, $178.133 75. This amount included 1,005,215 copper one cent pieces; 3,645,921 nickel one cent pieces; 3 101,180 bronze one cent pieces; 1,272,016 bronze two cent pieces; 219,144 nickel three cent pieces; 1,371,793 nickel five cent pieces or a total of 10,615,899 pieces valued at $178,133 75.

During this time, orders were received for a large amount of bronze and nickel coins. The profits of the nickel, copper, and bronze coinage paid into the Treasury during the fiscal year were $100,000.

The question of change in the designs of our coins is discussed, the Director holding, that as art and science are progressive, and that as the cultivation of the science of the beautiful, not only adorns but adds strength and dignity to national greatness, that the coinage of the country in devices and artistic execution, should meet the improved taste and higher cultivation of our advancing civilization. All this meaning that he would improve the general appearance of the coins, retaining still their general characteristics.

As the laws are now, there is no limit at which the United States coins cease to be a legal tender on account of wear. On the Pacific Coast, where coin is much used, this wear is very marked, Quarter Eagles in many cases, not being worth more than $2.40. In this connection comes a recommendation to the effect that gold coins be declared legal tender at their stamped valuation, so long as they weigh within one per cent. for the smaller denominations and the half per cent for the larger. As the question who shall lose the difference is sure to arise, it is argued that the Government should provide for keeping up the coins to legal weight, without laying the burden on the last holder. This provision to apply only to loss by abrasion and not to the fraudulent lightening of coins by boring, filing, clipping, &c. People who take such pieces must do so at their own risk.

The question of international coinage is referred to and the suggestion made that such a system should aim chiefly at a uniform *money of account*, this based upon refined gold in bar, that is, upon a definite weight of fine gold, without reference to a standard for coin. Old names could be retained, but five dollars of account, twenty-five francs of account, and one pound sterling of account, should express the same amount. After this basis, if each country should make its coins nine-tenths fine, and in weight less than the bar rate, say by one per cent., with a mutual guarantee to keep up the weight by recoinage, the coins would be passable for small sums beyond the lines; while for large transactions, commercial houses would expect to pay and be paid in bar gold. But within each country its own gold coin would be an unlimited legal tender at the stamped value; and this would tend to keep such coins at home, and secure a specie circulation as far as is desirable. It is claimed that the issue of gold bars at one rate and gold coin at a slightly different rate would not tend to check coinage.

The reduction in weight of silver coins is recommended and changes in gold and silver coin, to render counterfeiting more difficult, are suggested. In gold coin the Director would abandon the ribbing or reeding, and substiute raised letters or some other impression on the edge. The old argument is made against a paper currency only, with the following suggestions as to a practical domestic money system:

"In general the country's currency must always be as it has been, chiefly in paper redeemable in gold. A perfect domestic money system would seem to be bank or Government notes for large payments; gold coin for occasional use in large or small sums; silver coins for the fractions of a dollar to the tenth part, and an inferior alloy for smaller denominations."

Concurrently with this an issue of Treasury paper notes of one dollar, and a half dollar, always redeemable at the Treasury in silver coin would be a great convenience for transmission of small dues by mail, and for other purposes."

A SWINDLE.

The particulars of a deep laid plan for swindling dealers in flour, grain and produce throughout the country, have been brought to our notice, which we ventilate for the benefit of our readers.

A firm under the name of "WM. E. HOWARD & Co., Exporters and Wholesale Dealers in flour, grain and produce, 10 Bridge St., New York, and 243 King St., Liverpool," have been sending their circulars to produce and commission merchants throughout the country, and using other methods of securing consignments.

A prominent produce and commission house in this city wrote to WM. E. HOWARD & Co., with the view of opening business relations with them, and by return mail received the following fair-looking and business-like reply:

NEW YORK, Nov. 24, 1871.

Messrs. ——, Toledo, Ohio—Your favor is at hand. We can do nothing with buckwheat flour at prices named. The crop is very light all over and we think our prices must advance. We have concluded to try one car load of flour, and should it prove satisfactory we shall be pleased to arrange for regular shipments. We buy on thirty days. You may ship us 25 barrels of each of the different brands named in your letter and make 30 day drafts on us with bill of lading attached, which we will accept. For our responsibility we would refer you to the President of our bank, M. W. Miller, Esq., 704 Broadway.

Respectfully,
WM. E. HOWARD, & Co.

This was business like, and looked all "straight as a string," but before making any shipments to Messrs. WM. E. HOWARD & Co., our Toledo firm addressed M. W. MILLER, President of the Empire National Bank, inquiring as to the standing of WM. E. HOWARD & Co., and in due course of mail received the following reply:

NEW YORK, Dec. 4, 1871.

Messrs. ——, Toledo, O.:—In reply to your enquiries regarding the standing of Messrs. Wm. E. Howard & Co. I would say that they are perfectly responsible. They have done business with our bank for several years, and their paper has never been protested. Truly yours, M. W. MILLER, President.

This, of course, looked all right again, and our Toledo friends almost began to reproach themselves for being unwisely suspicious of the reliability of the firm of Messrs. WM. E. HOWARD & Co. Still, before making them any shipments it occurred to them that it *might* possibly be worth their while to make a little inquiry about the "Empire National Bank," with which Messrs WM. E. HOWARD & Co. have such fair standing. They did so, and of course were somewhat surprised to find that *there is no such institution in existence!* The name is a sham and a humbug to cover the operations of a set of swindlers who will never get their deserts short of a life sentence to the penitentiary.

By their plausible showing and the endorsement of this bogus Empire National Bank, these scoundrels have no doubt succeeded in securing consignments from many produce dealers throughout the country, and of course no remittances ever come back to the consignor.

As they are exposed under one name they will no doubt assume others; or they may be doing business at the same time under a half dozen *aliases*, and with as many bogus banks to endorse them.

The only safe course is for dealers to have nothing to do with parties at a distance of whose standing and reliability they have evidence that can not be questioned.

UNION OF REPUBLICANS.

The State Committee of the Republicans, and that of the Liberal Republicans of Missouri have had a meeting at which arrangements were made for uniting the factions which have been working against each other. A Convention is called to meet at Jefferson city on the 22nd of July, to elect a new Republican State Committee, and to call a Convention to elect delegates to the National Republican Convention. This action is indicative of the universal desire of the friends of Republican principles to be united at the polls. The only serious division in our ranks was in the State of Missouri, and the Democratic leaders have been exerting all their power to embitter and perpetuate the feud. The most flattering and tempting inducements have been held out to certain leaders to unite with the Democracy in opposition to the Administration. In this union of the Republicans, however, the chief prop of the new movement has fallen down, and the night of the Democracy is darker than ever.

☞ The Memphis *Avalanche* regards FRANK BLAIR as a disturbing element in the Democratic party. There is not much of a Democratic party for anybody to be a great deal disturbed about.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

A cable dispatch of Friday night announced that the Prince of Wales was dying. As a people, Americans have deemed it a duty to be indifferent to the welfare of the Prince. The fact that the announcement above caused much excitement, shows that human sympathy will have its way and that anything that has a bearing on the welfare of the English people, must interest us. The dispatches to-day announce a change but are not very definite. It is reasonable to suppose that this change indicates that the crisis is past and that the recovery of the Prince is hoped for.

It is easy to see why the death of the heir apparent to the throne in England, at this juncture, becomes an important event. It cannot be denied that the excellent character of the Queen has kept alive in progressive England much of the old veneration for Royalty, yet within the last few years we have seen one wing of the tory party clamoring for her retirement and insisting that to save the throne the Prince of Wales must become the sovereign.

The quietness of the Queen and the little interest she has shown, of late years, in public affairs, are put forward as arguments against the personality that has attracted much sympathy, and we may say strength, to royalty. This party sacrifice the Queen that they may gain with succession of the Prince a vigorous government. This is on the ground that the question of the Prince of Wales being the sovereign, is only one of time, and that the sooner he becomes so the better. So we have a strong royalist party hostile to the Queen, and basing their hopes for royalty on her early retirement. If the Prince dies, this party, committed to a policy hostile to the Queen, is without an expedient, or has at least, one expedient less. The event will naturally prolong the reign of the Queen, providing that she continues in good health.

This scheme of the early coming to the throne of the Prince of Wales was to head off the present Liberal or Republican movement in England. If the Republicans are not met by this argument that the people are not hostile to royalty so much as to person, they turn the guns of these Tories on royalty. In short, if the Prince of Wales dies, one hope of the royalists is gone—the hope that change will quiet the opposition. In case of the death of the Prince of Wales, as was stated in a BLADE editorial two weeks ago, his son, Albert Victor, born in January, 1864, becomes heir apparent to the throne. Then, if the Queen should die before this boy arrives at his majority, a regency would, in the natural order of things, be established, with the Duke of Cambridge (Commander in Chief,) the Queen's cousin, or Alfred Ernest, the Queen's second son, at the head of the Government. In all this there will be nothing to make royalty stronger. The Duke of Cambridge is now about 53 years of age and Prince Alfred about 28.

The death of the Prince of Wales would give new life to the Republican element in England, and would take away some of the strength of one wing of the royalists. Hence the event becomes an unsettling agent in the affairs of Government in England.

A DESPERATE EXPEDIENT.

Mr. MONTGOMERY BLAIR is trying to get up a sensation. He is at work with the Democratic Congressional Committee, if the news report of this morning does him justice, to get the Democratic members of Congress committed to a plot to move the impeachment of the President. The action of the President in the St. Domingo negotiations will be made the occasion or the basis of the charges to be brought. Of course Mr. BLAIR has no hope of getting the House to present the President to the Senate on any allegation he may fabricate, but he does expect to be able to make a sensation. He expects to put the President and his friends on the defensive, and to unite the Democracy on the basis which this new excitement will furnish. Anything, however desperate, that will promise to put an appearance of life into the inanimate party will be seized upon. The Message of the President has so triumphantly out-generaled his opponents that some new device must be extemporized. It may be, too, that Mr. BLAIR has a faint hope of enlisting some of the anti-GRANT Republicans in this movement. But in this he will be pretty certain to meet with disappointment.

No device can save the Democracy from death, or preserve its carcass from putrescence. Let Mr. BLAIR exhaust his skill in trying to bring it to life again. If this impeachment device should ever get beyond the caucus which is now incubating it, it will be the grandest political joke of the season.

CHARACTER OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.

The Philadelphia *Press* publishes a statement in regard to the habits of the Prince of Wales, which differs materially from the commonly received opinion as to his mode of life:

He had passed most of the autumn in the north of Scotland, deer-stalking, and on his return to his country house, in the county of Norfolk, was suddenly attacked by the severe illness which is believed to have brought him to death's door. As usual, a certain uncharitableness on the part of the American press peremptorily assumed that his illness was the effect of debauchery, and what his physician called typhoid fever (the complaint by which his father was almost suddenly snatched away ten years ago) was really delirium tremens. Of the same complaint, however, the Earl of Chesterfield, aged forty years, died on last Thursday, and one of the Prince's attendants, named Buzz, died on Friday. As yet no one has declared that the predisposing cause of illness, in either of those fatal cases, was free living or hard drinking. The poor Prince of Wales is a living exemplification of the adage, "as well hang a dog as give him a bad name." This young man has lived on the best terms with his wife, never kept a mistress, does not own a race horse and takes no interest in "the turf," lives within his income, chiefly indulges in field-sports (hunting and shooting,) which men enfeebled by dissipation cannot partake of to any extent—but he has got a bad name, chiefly in this country, from London correspondents of western papers, and therefore anything bad about him is taken for granted.

There is another kind of uncharitableness that one class of American papers are guilty of. They impose upon themselves the duty of disliking a Prince or other member of a royal family, simply because he or she is a member of such a family, and of saying flippant things about the misfortunes of such people that they would not say against the criminal dying in prison. Such people fancy that such a course is the outgrowth of their severe Republicanism, whereas it is simply the evidence of the absence of true feeling and charity.

It is so easy to say evil of a man situated as is the Prince of Wales. In saying it the writer knows that he is pandering to a low taste and that what he writes will be eagerly read. A little pique makes him audacious, and as an audacious man he writes, not even as a man who believes his own story. It is easy to criticize the conduct of a man and to outline his character without doing him injustice. We may not admire the man, but because we do not is no reason that we should fail to do him justice, and feel toward him as man should feel toward man.

☞ The first bill on the Senate calendar is Mr. SUMNER'S Supplementary Civil Rights Bill, which was introduced on the 9th of March last. The bill declares that all citizens of the United States, without distinction of race, color, etc., are entitled to the equal and impartial enjoyment of any accommodations, advantage, priority or privilege, furnished by common carriers, whether on land or water; by inn-keepers, by licensed owners, managers or lessees of theaters or other places of public amusement; by trustees, commissioners, superintendents, teachers, or other officers of common schools and other public institutions of learning, the same being supported or authorized by law; by trustee, or officers of church organizations, cemetery associations, and benevolent institutions, incorporated by national or State authority and that their rights shall not be denied or abridged on any pretense of color, &c. The bill also provides the machinery for enforcing its provisions, and contains a paragraph securing to all citizens an equal right to serve on juries. If the bill does not become a law it will not be Mr. SUMNER'S fault, as its passage will be pressed by him with his characteristic energy and persistence.

☞ The old Manassas battle field was sold a few days since for eight dollars an acre. When the war commenced it was under a high state of improvement, and the dwelling house upon it was one of the finest in that section of the State; but that scourge devastated it, and the open fields and young pines, and shattered mansion—all now bear evidence to the bloody conflicts of which it was the scene. If the land only brings $8 per acre, we incline to the opinion that there is a cause beyond the battle devastation. It was not very valuable perhaps before the devastation commenced.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

The Halford Leicestershire Table Sauce for family use, in pints and half pints, for sale by every first class grocer.

"We consider Burnett's Flavoring Extracts superior to any others."—Parker House, Boston.

Farmers, ask for the STAR AXE.

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION.—The safest and best paper of its class that can find a place in the family.

Insure the safety of your family by burning only Pratt's Astral Oil. Add to the cheerfulness of home also by the use of its soft, clear and beautiful light. It is the safest oil, and the best illuminator.

Oil house of Chas. Pratt, 108 Fulton St., N. Y. Established 1770.

SPEAKS FOR ITSELF.—Over *seven hundred and fifty* subscribers were received for Whitney's *Musical Guest* in the week ending Dec. 9th, which is satisfactory evidence that the *Guest* is becoming a household necessity. $1 per year. The WEEKLY BLADE and GUEST for only $2.

We are glad to answer any questions about the Star Axe. C. GERBER & Co.

A neglected cough, cold, or sore throat, which might be checked by a simple remedy like Brown's Bronchial Troches, if allowed to progress may terminate seriously.

Mrs. Grundy says that Sozodont eclipses all other preparations for the teeth and gums. And what Mrs. G. says is reiterated most emphatically by ninety-nine one-hundredths of the beauty and fashion of the land.

We will send a sample STAR AXE to you for $1 25. C. GERBER & Co., Toledo, Ohio.

MARRIAGE GUIDE—Interesting work, numerous engravings, 224 pages. Price 50 cents. Address Dr. Butts' Dispensary, 13 North Eighth street, St. Louis, Mo. See advertisement.

UPHAM'S ASTHMA CURE relieves the most violent paroxysms in five minutes, and effects a speedy cure. Price, $2, by mail.

Superfluous hair removed in five minutes, without injury to the skin, by UPHAM'S Depilatory Powder. $1 25 by mail. Address S. C. UPHAM, 106, South Eighth street, Philadelphia, Pa. Circulars sent free. Sold by all druggists.

A good STAR AXE costs no more than any of the poor axes sold.

$10 from 50 Cents.

Something urgently needed by everybody. Call and examine, or twelve samples sent (postage free) for fifty cents that retails readily for ten dollars. R. L. WOLCOTT,
181 Chatham Square, N. Y.
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THE MANHATTAN.—Should you be a little behind with your sewing, and want to run your machine evenings, if you be so fortunate as to have a Manhattan, you need not carry it down in the cellar or up in the garret for fear of disturbing your tired husband or waking your sleeping infant, with a racket equal to that of a threshing machine; but on the contrary you can sit either in your sitting room or library, and while you run it at its unequalled speed, it will disturb no one, and you can either listen to your husband read, or your children's amusing remarks, as they recount their experience of the day. And to the young lady we would say: You can even *court by it.*

Every working part of the Manhattan is made from the best Swedish case-hardened steel, and each and every piece is the exact counterpart of the other, in each and every machine. No matter if it be the lowest or the highest price, the difference in cost is made only in the finish of the case and castings.

Correspondence.

Washington Letters

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5, 1871.

Congress opened briskly yesterday and Frank Blair in the Senate and Mr. Beck in the House indicated that there was still some remains of life in the Democratic party by seizing the earliest opportunity to call on the President for his authority to proclaim martial law in certain portions of the "rebel States." They have their answer in the message, but as the information was sought as a handle to hang a policy on, you may look out for some "big speeches" on constitutional law.

The message, somehow, commands universal admiration. I do not mean to say that all the President's views are approved or that there is any great show of brilliancy, or any special effort to hunt up theories of government or to develop master strokes of policy. The message is chiefly remarkable for its simplicity and its complete and satisfactory exposition of our National interests. It tells its story in the fewest possible words; but is wonderfully rich in important suggestions, looking to the improvement of the national machinery or to the oil which is to make it run more smoothly. There is much in it to awaken fair discussion, but not much to provoke sharp antagonisms. There is no hint in it that there is such a place as San Domingo; and such irritating questions as the tariff and the reform of the civil service are touched upon in the interest of no party; but simply with the view to such practical amendments as experience has shown would be beneficial.

In relation to the Mormons, the President says that he has no controversy with the Mormon religion, and does not propose to interfere with their rights of worship; but they must be held to account for their conduct as well as other citizens, and their religion must not be a cloak to shameless violations of law. He also suggests that their children, born of polygamous parents, might be legitimized down to a given date.

His significant reference to citizens of the United States who hold slaves and deal in slaves while residing in other countries, his prompt action for the defence of our citizens in the island of Cuba, his policy towards the Indians, his action in relation to the claims of citizens against Great Britain, &c., &c., all show that he has a careful watch over the interests of the republic, and is sensitive to its honor and well-being. Seldom, in the history of the country, have our foreign relations been in so satisfactory a condition, or our domestic relations so free from causes of uneasiness.

There has been great interest about Congressional circles for several days in relation to the formation of the committees, and especially as to the several chairmanships; and Speaker Blaine has had his hands and heart full. The committees were announced yesterday and it is conceded that the sore heads and disappointed ones were never so numerous before. At the same time it must be acknowledged that the Speaker has done about as well with his materials as his warmest friends had any right to expect, and the country will generally approve his judgment.

Gen. Butler does not receive the consideration at the hands of the Speaker which he regards as his due, and he is not the only one who will seek to make his complaints react against that officer. Mr. Dawes who gets the place of parliamentary leader as chairman of Ways and Means, is a true man and an able man, and as temperate in his bearing and opinions as any of the old members. The Committee is modestely protective, but is pretty well freighted with strong free traders. Mr. Garfield, of Ohio, is a good selection for the Committee on Appropriations, and Mr. Shellabarger, also from Ohio, ought to prove a success for the Committee of Commerce. Ohio is also honored with a continuance of Mr. Bingham at the head of the Judiciary Committee. In the Senate everything is conservative, and there will be few changes.

Among the notable things which have taken place since the date of my last is the closing up of the dance house of "Reddy Welch," the most infamous den of iniquity in the city. This is one of the fruits of the much abused woman's club, which appears to be working very effectively among the cast off classes, notwithstanding the cold shoulder which it gets from upper tendom. Welch has been induced to marry his mistress, to give up his house and to accept honest employment, which the women propose to obtain for him.

The Emperor of Germany is tart in his reply to the Catholic Archbishop, and after expressing his confidence in the friendship of the Pope and a hope that he will still look on the Empire with favor, adds very emphatically: "But even if that hope should not be realized, no disappointment on that ground would ever prevent me from watching that full and entire liberty should be secured, in the present and in the future, to every religious belief in my States, in conformity with the rights and equalities of all before the law." That has not the ring of a subservient vassal.

The most elegant mercantile house in Washington, is the new building for the Freedmen's Savings Bank, the upper stories of which are already occupied by the government. The banking house will be removed to its new quarters this week. The building is opposite the north front of the Treasury.

The women who are engineering the suffrage movement have called a Convention here on the 10th, 11th and 12th of January, which is intended to be a great occasion. The public are invited to be present to "consider the New Departure,"—women already citizens, and their rights secured by the 14th and 15th amendments."

The excitable cable dispatch from Madrid has awakened inquiry from all quarters as to the real condition of things in regard to Spain; but inquiries at the State department do not sustain the impressions made by the dispatch. There would I think, be a jubilant feeling here if the state of things in Cuba really justified the intervention foreshadowed in the dispatch; but it is not believed that the complications are serious or call for any extraordinary action. The Spanish government has ordered restitution for the wrongs inflicted on our citizens; but there is a state of things in Cuba which, for the present, prevents the order from being expected. It is expected that time will bring justice and reparation. A further dispatch from Madrid contradicts its predecessor.

Mr. Waite's appointment as one of the counsel to the Geneva arbitration is due to the friendship of Mr. Delano who puts a high estimate on his abilities. He was in college with Mr. Evarts, but was not urged by him. It is a matter of complaint among the counsel that they were not appointed earlier and did not have an opportunity to personally superintend the preparation of the cases, which have been arranged and prepared by Mr. Bancroft Davis. BUCKEYE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7, 1871.

The discussions in the House on the reference of the message do not show any "change of heart" in the Democratic leaders or any disposition to lay down the weapons of their warfare. On the other hand it was abundantly manifest that like the famous horse celebrated in the Book of Job, they "smell the battle afar off" and will prove to be as full of "pure cussedness" as they were before they entered on the penitential road, called the "new departure." Fernando Wood, S. S. Cox, Randall, Niblack, Beck and others were very fast in showing their fealty to the old party, and were specially anxious to let it be known that, whether the Democratic party was dead or "passive," they did not intend to "disperse."

In the Senate, that "mild mannered" gentleman, Gen. Blair, is, to all appearances, just as earnest for dispersing the "carpet bag governments" as he ever was; but the "army" not being at his disposal, he resorts to the "sharp sword" spoken of in the Revelations, which "comes out of the mouth." On the first day of the session he called for President Grant's authority to declare martial law, and the next day he struggled hard to get up his resolution, and, no doubt, had some startling charges to make; but Mr. Morton intervened, thinking that the inquiry did not relate to practical business, and his resolution was nailed to the table 45 to 11, and Mr. Blair's sword of the mouth did not get wielded.

In the House Cox did better. He's a little fellow, and as nimble of foot and dextrous of hand as the Saracen warrior in Ivanhoe; and so it did not take long for him to hurl his mace at the Secretary of the Treasury. His point is that Mr. Boutwell has managed his "syndicate" loan at the expense of violating the law. At first he was as smooth and sweet as honey. He just wanted to amend a resolution so as to provide for an investigation into Mr. Boutwell's manner of funding the public debt with power to send for persons and papers. He was sure that the Secretary would court investigation. He did not wish to rest on him in the least. But it came out before he got through that he had a charge against the Secretary, "who had increased the public debt in defiance of law;" and as he was in favor of law and order he wanted the Secretary reprimanded. His amendment was sustained by a number of Republicans, but it was voted down—90 to 81. This is an encouraging vote, and you may expect to hear from Mr. Cox again.

Mr. Dawes got beat in his motion to refer portions of the message to the outrage committee, and the discussions and action of the House, thus far, make the impression that the members do not fall naturally into the party traces, and are a little loose in the handle. The "possum party" feel gratified at the result of these demonstrations, and are prepared to make the most of every occasion.

Very great interest is felt on all sides about the constitution of the Ways and Means Committee, and as soon as it was announced, the different schools of political economy began to count noses. It was easy enough to know how the committee was constituted politically in the sense of Democrats and Republicans; but it was not so easy to ascertain how they stood on the absorbing question of protection and free trade. At first there seemed to be no doubt that the majority was on the side of protection; but it is now said that Mr. Burchard is a free trader and that five of the nine members will have to be classed on that side, viz: Brooks, Dem.; Finkelnburg, Rep.; Burchard, Rep; Kerr, Dem. and Beck, Dem. The tariff members are Dawes, chairman, Maynard, Kelley and Roberts, all Republicans.

You will notice that Ohio gets the chairmanship of four of the most important committees, which is certainly a high distinction and speaks well for her able delegation. They are these: Appropriations, James A. Garfield; Commerce, Samuel Shellabarger; Agriculture, John F. Wilson; Judiciary, John A. Bingham.

I said in one of my letters not long ago that Congress would hardly be as "sleep" on President making as is usual with the second Congress of an administration; but the indications are that I shall have to take that back. It is pretty clear that the members have come charged with political speeches and that legitimate business will have to give way to buncombe.

I notice that the BLADE has information of a paper circulating about Washington, and being largely signed, in the interest of Horace Greeley as the bolting candidate. If any such paper is out it is in the hands of very prudent people who have kept it from the public eye. But there is any amount of caucusing, and consulting, and button-holing; though I doubt if Horace is mentioned as often as he supposes. The fact is that any bolt from the party must be a miserable failure, and this is well understood by the prominent men who have been suggested in that connection. Judge Trumbull, the oldest and by far the most formidable of them, openly declares that he is for Grant, and scouts the idea of lending his name to any such interest. The Democrats have a caucus to-day.

But I must not close without a word about the weather, which, on Monday, turned a sharp corner, with decided suggestions of Artic explorations. We have rarely had a change so sudden and violent. In about twelve hours the mercury must have descended some 30 or 40 degrees. This morning was warm and foggy, this evening boisterous and freezing, and with a temperature of about 8 degrees above zero. The cold is still intense, and winter is a full month too early. BUCKEYE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6, 1871.

My pen has been so long a time idle, and the thread of Washington affairs has grown so long and knotted withal, that hardly dare I trust it in unwinding to give a voice to that which has gone by. The Grand Army course of lectures now nearing completion, for variety and merit, I think could have hardly been surpassed. George William Curtis, one of nature's orators, discoursed to us upon the "Women of the Old Time and the New." Now most men make fools of themselves, who undertake to talk about women. Not so George William. He argues that though the old times were very good, yet is the present time better. "Nobility and poetry live in the deed, not in the distance." He prophesies for woman, through her better means of culture and broader education, a nobler influence, and a grander life than she has hitherto known, and that the same spirit which induced the Boston girls years ago to flock about the school house doors clamoring for admittance, and which finally opened for their entrance, because they "wanted to know, you know," will in the time to come open to woman every avenue in life, into which her talents or her taste may lead her.

Anna Dickinson, with the good hard sense which is a characteristic of the eloquent little woman, talked to us of "Demagogues and Working Men." Without stint of labor or painstaking she has gathered together statistics substantiating what she affirms. Her views upon the labor question are rather new, and differ materially from some of our old notions, yet are they worthy of a dispassionate consideration. Perhaps no American lecturer elicits either such sharp criticisms or such warm commendations as Miss Dickinson. At any rate the people always throng to hear her.

Mark Twain gave us his latest humorous lecture on Artemus Ward. He called forth, as usual, a large assembly to hear him.

John Hay, whose poems you all have read, and which a few critics have groaned over as demoralizing to our "Young America," lectured on "The Growth of Democracy in Europe." He knows his subject well, having studied history to some purpose, and traveled over the old world with eyes and ears wide open. In the cause of Republicanism, he is, if such a thing be possible, zealous over much. With a face and manner almost boyish, he occasionally warms into eloquence not surpassed by our oldest and ablest orators. A few years will do great things for John Hay, and as for his poems, read them if you like. They'll not hurt you, for underneath the uncouth language of his characters, warm kindly feelings lie.

Next Olive Logan, in her talk about "Nice Young Men," and others not so nice, said many true and sensible things. I would advise all young men, who have the opportunity, yes, and ladies, too, to hear this lecture of Miss Logan's. Without the appearance of much profundity, she certainly does scatter many hints which, being acted upon, would tend to make the constant routine of our daily living quite pleasanter than we at present find it. Like an honest, orthodox woman, she hesitated not to show her colors; a free suffragist but not a free lover. Many of us, doubtless, feel rather to criticise her manner. But could we do better ourselves?

"The Power of Stump Oratory" was shown by Gen. Kilpatrick in that very effective way which is peculiarly his own, to be a power in the world. Not the weak, mean, despicable thing which Thomas Carlisle and other hangers on to luxurious nobility, have pictured it. A power of which our own great, good Lincoln was the offspring and the outgrowth. A continually increasing and improving power, forever adding to the stature of Republicanism. As the pen is mightier than the sword, so, mightier than either is the charming of the human voice pouring forth the impassioned eloquence of the earnest speaker. The General embellished his lecture by frequent fun ny anecdotes, which brought down the house with applause and laughter. But enough of lectures.

Let me say, Mr. Editor, that I write these things for your numerous country readers, and not for those who will probably hear them all in your own city, with which explanation I proceed to mention briefly that Congress and the cold weather are both here. They came together. Notwithstanding the storm and unpleasantness out of doors, a large concourse of people assembled at the Capitol on Monday, the 4th, to witness the reassembling of those two potent bodies, the Senate and House of Representatives. The Congressmen came together with apparently increased strength and vigor to do the work of the long session. In the House the President's Message was listened to with deep interest and evident satisfaction by both the occupants of the floor and galleries. The different committees were appointed, a few members sworn in, some bills introduced, and the House adjourned for the day.

ITEMS.

The historic old ship Constellation, is lying at the navy yard. She was built in 1797. Shortly after, she had a fight with and captured two French ships. In the war of 1812, we hear of her doing service. Although built so long ago, she is said be as easily handled, and the fastest sailing vessel in the navy. A fine old man-of-war is she.

The coal and wood cart drivers in the different yards of Georgetown, struck for 50 cents increase on their daily wages the other day, but the proprietors promptly refused to accede to their demands, saying that if not satisfied with $3.00 per day for man and horse, they might go where they could do better. Whereupon, with oaths and maledictions the men scattered. Before long they returned, however, and resumed work at the old wages.

A man who is a huckster, living on L street, has been in the habit of going away in the morning, leaving three children alone in the house. He did so one day recently. Soon after, a little fellow of three years commenced playing with the stove. His clothes caught fire, and had he not been rescued by two ladies who chanced to be passing would have burned to death. His recovery is doubtful. At best, his face will be terribly scarred. Will parents never take warning?

The fashion of dressing the hair in loose hanging braids and curls, which has been so graceful and becoming, is changing to heavy coils and plaids bound about the back of the head.

Dresses are worn much longer this year than last. Even for street wear they should trail about a finger to be stylish. The ladies with small feet have had the advantage latterly, but now those of large understanding rejoice. Flounces, and elaborate trimmings of the material, are giving way to the style of trimming with broad velvet bands of the same color, which is more elegant. Capes are considerably worn this season. The double cape is perhaps more stylish, but for petite figures the single cape is more becoming.

Ladies' boots this winter show an improvement for which we may all be thankful. The low, broad heel allows the foot to assume a natural position in walking, which was impossible with the high stylish heel of a year ago, while the broad soles and toes give it an easy play conducive to comfort and graceful motion. A. D. H.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

THE MEXICAN INSURGENTS GAIN A VICTORY.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—A special from Mexico dated Mier says that Saltillo, and the forts there are in possession of the insurgents under General Trevino. The government forces capitulated on the evening of the 5th. The conditions are not yet known. The insurgents are preparing to march on San Luis.

GRAVE ANXIETIES IN FRANCE.

A special dispatch from Paris says that the situation in France is grave. The Orleans Princes are pushing things. On Tuesday, they sought the advice of Thiers about taking their seats, but he assured them that their presence in the assembly would arouse many animosities; that the moment was inopportune; that the Bonapartists, Red Republicans, and Legitimist, journals would clamor that the Republic was menaced. The Princes answered, that they would not act without further consideration. There was no misunderstanding, but Thiers showed an extreme anxiety to prevent the Princes from taking their seats the same night, the Commission on the abrogation of the law of exile met. Should they abrogate the law of exile, the Princes will perhaps enter the Chamber. Thiers regarding this as a menace to the Republic, will present a proposition for a definite Republican Government. It is believed that an issue must be thus precipitated, or the Republic will fall. The impression is general, that if the Duc D'Aumale asks now, he will succeed, as it is thought he can command a majority in the Chamber on the question of a monarchy or a Republic.

THE EMPEROR OF BRAZIL INTERVIEWED.

The Emperor of Brazil, in an interview with a newspaper correspondent in Egypt, expressed himself much pleased with the reform which the present Khedive is effecting in that country, and stated that the Brazilians expect much from steamship lines between Brazil and the United States. The shipping interest of America he considered of more importance than the revenue gained by taxation.

PAY DRAWN FOR DOING NOTHING.

Edward Hogan testified in the Irving trial yesterday, as follows: "I have no occupation at present. Year before last New Year's, I drew a salary of fifteen hundred dollars a year from the constable's office. I received this for doing nothing. I have done nothing ever since."

ENGLISH BIBLE REVISION.

Rev. Dr. Howson delivered an address last evening upon the revision of the Bible progressing in England. At the conclusion it was announced that an American committee had been formed to whom sheets of the English revision will be sent to pass upon before the result of the joint revision shall be finally adopted.

SECRETARY FISH'S RESIGNATION.

A dispatch to the Times says Fish's resignation has been placed in the hands of the President.

THE INTERNAL REVENUE COMMISSION.

A dispatch to the Herald from Washington says that Senator Sumner is preparing an active fight to abolish the Internal Revenue Commissionership, and that he will be sustained by many leading Senators.

THE TAMMANY INVESTIGATION.

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—Some of the missing bills of A. J. Garvey, for plastering, have recently been found. It is said that they bear evidence of their fraudulent character on their very face. The Grand Jury are still hearing the evidence against the Tammany frauds. The jury have permission of the Recorder and the City Judges to take up such cases as they may deem proper, disregarding the law in this respect passed by Tweed's influence, which permits juries to hear only cases presented by the District Attorney.

The rumor is gaining credit that Mayor Hall is ready to resign.

TAMMANY TRYING TO EXPEL TWEED.

A meeting of the Tammany Association was held last evening for the purpose of expelling Tweed; there was no quorum and a meeting is called for some future day.

REDUCTION OF MINER'S WAGES.

A special dispatch from Scranton says that miner's wages have been reduced to eight cents per ton, and steps are being taken for a strike.

DAMAGES RECOVERED.

A verdict of five hundred dollars was rendered yesterday against the 3d Street Railroad Co. for having ejected a passenger who refused to pay fare on the car to which he was transferred, alleging that he had paid on another car.

SALT LAKE, Dec. 7.—The President's message has received earnest commendation from all classes. Even the church organ approves portions, but no reference was made to that upon Utah affairs. The general effect of the message is excellent among the Mormons.—Few now express the hope of maintaining the practices of polygamy in the United States. Some still cling to the belief that Congress may, in some way, favor them, but the main question at present is when shall the practice cease. One suggestion from a higher quarter is to make the time twenty-five years hence, that polygamists now living may not be disturbed in the exercise of their faith.

Much surprise is felt at the removal of Gen. Maxwell from the Land Office. The Gentiles universally regret it, and the Mormons rejoice.

Two severe shocks of earthquake occurred on the night of the fifth at Cedar City, Iron county, and on the morning of the 6th another shock occurred. A loud noise accompanied the shocks.

No mails or passengers from the east have arrived since Saturday last.

The weather has moderated.

PARIS, Dec. 6.—President Thiers has demanded of the Holy See, at the request of Bismarck, the recall of Prince De Chigialboui, the Papal Nuncio of this city.

Mark Twain's

new book is ready for canvassers. It is a companion volume to **INNOCENTS ABROAD**. Don't waste time on books no one wants, but take one people will stop you in the streets to subscribe for. For Territory or circulars address W. E. BLISS, Toledo, Ohio. dec14atf

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BY HARRIET BEECHER STOWE.

Author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Minister's Wooing," Etc.

Once there was a very good little girl, who, by reason of her goodness, knew where to find strawberries in the winter. In the same way, less perfect people, blessed by the generous fairies of memory and imagination, may sit, as I do now, in the midst of falling leaves and whistling winds, and call back the green grasses and the summer sun. I see yonder in the glen the darling of our house, the golden gleam in her brown hair, a chain of daisies in her hand, and in her eyes the roguish meditation of a kitten, weary for an instant only of its own play, and thinking slyly on another spring. Thrown back upon the velvet grass, she is not resting, only pausing; from her bright glances to the tips of her tiny fingers, she is wide awake.

But now the merry play is over, and our pet nestles yonder on the sofa-cushion, tired at last in earnest. Slowly the lids fall, and the lingering smile dies out; but the flush in cheek and lip remains, like the glow after sunset. The gathered buttercups and daisies are loosely held by the fair little hand; no shadows, even of dream-land, disturb the sweet brow's perfect peace. She is fast, asleep.

In other words, two chromos hang upon the wall, bewitching child-heads, in which every mother sees something of her own dear ones, never grown old, and never lost to her, however time or death may have dealt with them.

Nothing pleases more at first sight or gives pleasure longer than poetical pictures of children. "The little child" whom Jesus sets in the midst of every family is a joy that grows not old and fades not.

"Age cannot wither, custom cannot stale
Its infinite variety."

For this reason a happy picture of a child brings an enjoyment more lasting than any other, because it is a subject of which no one ever tires.

But these pictures besides their constant charm for grown folks, are such as children can understand and love. Our little "Wide Awake" and "Fast Asleep" would give many a pleasant hour of companionable amusement and interest to the little people akin to them in age. The pictures that children's eyes rest on, as they are dropping off to sleep or as they awake in the morning, seem to them like living friends. All sorts of childish dreams and fancies make of the pictured face a real companion. Not only in the parlor or the sitting room would they be an attractive and fitting embellishment, but they are a charming pair for the adornment of a nursery.

Undoubtedly those two pictures are portraits. There is a realistic faithfulness and truth about them that forbids the idea of their being fancy heads. They will remind many parents of little ones, either here or in heaven. Dickens says somewhere of his portraiture of little Nell that he has had letters from the farthest regions of the earth speaking of children who resembled her,—so dear, and so early lost. He who paints one child well, paints thousands, and speaks to the tenderest feelings of innumerable hearts.

Of course there is a pleasure in possessing an original painting; but when the question lies between an original at five hundred dollars and a chromo, which can scarcely be distinguished from it, at ten dollars—particularly when one has not the five hundred to spare—the choice is not very difficult. As to these two exquisite chromos, only a critical examination can distinguish between the copies and the originals which sold for many hundreds—which is certainly more than can be said of the best copies of most pictures painted by hand.

Blessings upon chromo-lithography, by which the success ful painting of a master can be reproduced indefinitely, and can enter thousands of homes with its educating, quickening, reforming influences!

It is not alone into the dwellings of the great and wealthy that we follow this pretty pair with anticipations of delight. We see them in the cottages of the poor, in the log cabins of the backwoodsman, brightening the toil of the hard-working wife and mother, and receiving the almost adoring wonder of children who have never seen pictures before.

God bless the darlings—send the little comforters fast and far!

The charming pair of oil chromos, "Wide Awake" and "Fast Asleep," of whose real beauty and attractiveness Mrs. Stowe's graceful sketch can give but an imperfect idea—so pleasing are they to all who love art or children—have always sold in the picture stores for $10, and the original publisher has never been able to supply the great demand for them even at that price. And yet, although thousands of them have been sold in America at that high rate, they are now within the reach of all, for the arts

GIVEN AWAY

to every subscriber to the *Christian Union*, an unsectarian, literary, religious and domestic weekly newspaper, edited by HENRY WARD BEECHER.

The pair, by a fortunate arrangement which one of the partners of this house was able to make in Paris during the late siege, with the proprietors of the pictures, are furnished to Mr. Beecher's publishers at a rate *entirely exceptional*. The New York *Mail* says: "Wide Awake" and "Fast Asleep" are two examples of the chromo lithographic art, which have few rivals in the market in attractiveness, so admirably adapted were the original paintings in this fashion." The subjects are Life Size.

As to the *Christian Union*, the great success of that paper has been a marvel in the history of Journalism, and the scholarly and critical New York *Nation* calls it "not only the ablest and best, but also the most popular of American religious periodicals."

This paper, after the first of January will be printed on a still larger sheet, folded in twenty-four pages, somewhat smaller than the present ones, also pasted at the back and trimmed at the edges, a decided advantage possessed by no other religious weekly published. It contains contributions from eminent writers of all denominations, and has matters of interest for every member of the household, young and old. For the year 1872 Mrs. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE will write exclusively for the CHRISTIAN UNION.

The terms of subscription to this paper are for one year, only $3.00. This will entitle the subscriber to the paper and to the above pair of beautiful Oil Chromos. The CHRISTIAN UNION, including the Illustrated Holiday Number (double size, 32 pp.), will be sent FREE until Jan. 1st, to all who now subscribe for the year 1872.

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☞ Read Mrs. Stowe's article preceding this, entitled "Faces on the Wall."

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The Christian Union,

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[1] Independent, N. Y. [2] Evening Mail, N. Y. [3] Advance, N. Y. [4] Springfield Republican. [5] Advance, Chicago. [6] Harper's Weekly, N. Y. [7] Illustrated Christian Weekly, N. Y. [8] Christian at Work, N. Y.

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Our Young Folks.

TINA'S NEW DOLL.

All the little women want to see Tina clo'es.
All the little women after little cha's.

Curly hair and dark eyes—very little nose—
The prettiest of corpses of—ribbons, flounces, bows.

In the cradle rocking—bumping on the floor—
Lying in a shocking heap behind the door.

Bending o'er its lesson—tumbling down the stairs—
Having its night-dress on—kneeling at its prayers.

Little nose gets battered—then a foot is gone—
Then an arm is shattered—Dottie all forlorn.

Soaking in the pitcher—drying on the mat—
Doleful looking creature—riding on the cat.

Under marching orders—trotting to the door—
Leaving trail of sawdust all along the floor.

All the little women after little cha's:
Tina wants a new one—gets it—I suppose.

Bob Ryan and Dandy.

"Never make an enemy, even of a dog," said I to Bobby Ryan, as I caught at his raised hand and tried to prevent him from throwing a stick at our neighbor Howard's great Newfoundland. But my words and effort came too late. Over the fence flew the stick, and whack on Dandy's nose it fell. Now Dandy, a great powerful fellow, was very good natured, but this proved a little too much for him. He sprang up with an angry growl, and bounded over the fence as if he had been as light as a bird, caught Bobby Ryan by the arm, and held him tightly enough to let his teeth be felt.

"Dandy, Dandy," I cried, in momentary alarm, "et go. Don't bite him." The dog lifted his dark brown, angry eyes to mine with a look of intelligence, and I understood what they said—"I only want to frighten the young rascal."

And Bobby was frightened. Dandy held him for a little while, growling savagely, though there was a good deal of make believe in the growl, and then tossing the arm away, leaped back over the fence, and laid himself down by his kennel.

"You're a very foolish boy, Bobby Ryan," said I, "to pick a quarrel with such a splendid old fellow as that. Suppose you were to fall into the lake some day, and Dandy happened to be near, and suppose he should remember your bad treatment and refuse to go in after you."

"Wouldn't care," replied Bobby, "I can swim."

Now it happened, only a week afterward, that Bobby was out on the lake, in company with an older boy, and that in some way their boat was upset in deep water, not far from the shore; and it also happened that Mr. Howard and his dog Dandy were near by, and saw the two boys struggling in the water.

Quick as thought Dandy sprang into the lake and swam rapidly toward Bobby, but strange to say, after getting close to the lad, he turned and went toward the larger boy, who was struggling in the water, and keeping his head above the surface with difficulty. Seizing him, Dandy brought him safely to the shore. He then turned and looked toward Bobby, his young tormentor; he had a good many grudges against him, and for some moments seemed hesitating whether to save him or let him drown.

"Quick, Dandy!" cried his master, pointing to poor Bobby, who was trying his best to keep afloat. He was not the brave swimmer he had thought himself.

At this the noble dog bounded again into the water, and brought Bobby to land. He did not seem to have much heart in his work, however, for he dropped the boy as soon as he reached the shore, and walked away with a stately, indifferent air.

But Bobby, grateful for his rescue, and repenting his former unkindness, made up with Dandy on that very day, and they were ever afterward fast friends. He came very near losing his life through unkindness to a dog, and the lesson it gave him will not soon be forgotten.—*Children's Hour.*

In Our Cellar.

I heard Joe swallow his wrath, as he stumbled over something in the cellar, where I had sent him for coal. We were in one of those peculiar national situations, about which there has been so much written and said already, that I will briefly explain it in two words—no Biddy. Until our piteous appeal among the "wants" should be answered, I was necessarily obliged to be "chief cook" and nursery maid, while Joe was fulfilling his promise to "cherish me," by cheerfully acting in the capacity of "down stairs girl," (until some one of the proper sex should appear to relieve him of that opprobrium.) I laughed (to myself) at his awkwardness, when I saw him come up looking cross, and with the scuttle half empty.

"Drown the cuss—always under foot," he exclaimed as he set the few remaining coals down.

Poor puss lay sleeping quietly before the range; and hearing her so unjustly accused, I answered quickly, as I fixed the fire: "For shame, Joe, to blame the innocent kitten; you are mistaken this time, you see, for here is Julie sound asleep!"

"Well," he answered, as he beheld the cat, her paws crossed, dreaming before the warm fireside, "then Romeo is in the cellar, for I walked over a cat; I could swear to it."

"Don't *any more*, please," returned I; and then, continuing to insist upon his having been mistaken, that it must have been a roll of carpet that he had "walked over" instead, I at last persuaded him to go down cellar with me at once, and settle the dispute of "cat versus carpet," by an investigation of the premises.

To our surprise, upon descending, candle in hand, we could discover nothing whatever over which he could have stumbled! I came up, laughing heartily over Joe's being afraid.

"You may laugh as much as you please, Doll; but I certainly felt something soft under my feet," he declared, as he blew out the light.

"Under your hat, you mean!" I cried, as I ran off up stairs to tuck in the little ones, who kept me as busy covering their bare arms and legs as though they were centipedes!

Next day I searched the cellar over for the enemy, and saw no signs of any living creature, neither was there any way of ingress or egress for one, not even a mouse hole. I finally came to the conclusion that Joe had only meant to tease me, knowing I detested cats, and only tolerated Julie as the gift of a dear friend.

Later in the morning I had occasion to go to the cellar way, when at the foot of the stairs I saw two bright shining eyes glare out of the darkness! I stood still for a minute, to make sure my own did not deceive me, then boldly cried "scat."

Puss rubbed up against my feet in answer, and still the eyes shone down there at the bottom of the stairs, and I heard it speak in some horrible foreign tongue!

I banged the door, bolted it, and ran up to the sitting room, where I sat locked in, with baby in my arms, waiting for Joe to come home. Noon came at last! And when Joe returned, tired and hungry, and found no dinner, the fire out, and a general look of desolation reigning, he rushed up stairs, expecting to see me "down sick." I unbolted the door, when I heard *his* voice, and began to cry.

"What is the matter, Dumpling?" he asked, frightened to see me so pale and hysterical.

"Nothing," I answered, "only you'll have to dine on desert to-day, and eat me—for oh, Joe, there is something in our cellar!"

"Something! What thing?" he asked, wanting a long explanation, before he could be made to understand that I was frightened to death at eyes I had seen in our cellar!

"Are you sure it wasn't the roll of carpet you saw?" he said, so provokingly, when I had sobbed out my tale; but he loaded his pistols and went bravely down stairs, I following behind with baby and the broom.

He opened the cellar door, and we both heard the terrible talking still going on, and Joe went straight down. Presently he called:

"Come here, Dumpling, don't be afraid; it is only one of our relatives."

I wonderingly obeyed: and there, up on one of the cross beams, sat a monkey—chattering away to us in the most eloquent manner! Joe helped his kinsman down—I disclaimed the relationship—and after giving him his dinner, took him back to his cage in the new museum, from whence he had escaped the day before, and had come to us with our kindling wood, through the window.

I dread going down those cellar steps ever since; for I am in daily expectation of some of the rest of the menagerie turning up *in our cellar!—Forney's Press.*

Freed Children in Washington.

They were queer enough, those first schools, seven years ago. Everybody wanted to come, and we could not make the older people understand that they were intended only for children. So gray-headed men and women came, and poured over the primer through their spectacles. Parents and children studied together from the same book; for old and young alike had to "begin at the beginning," and learn their letters, or, as they called it, their A B C's. We would sometimes ask of new comers who had mastered the alphabet, "Do you know your letters?" and invariably they would answer, "No, ma'am, dunno dat ar, but knows my A B C." Soldiers came in when they were "off guard," to "read a verse." Patients from the hospital came in their gray knit dressing gowns. Women came with their babies; and while they studied their lesson, let the youngsters chew the corner of the book to keep them quiet. A man would come in, and, putting down an axe or a saw by the door, say that he "jes' come in for a few minutes to get a lesson, an' would de lady be so kin' jes' ter show him how ter cut his name on a slate." That was their expression for writing.

Then, once in a while, there would be a regular stampede. A bugle would sound, and the soldiers would start up and march out with military step, their heavy tread shaking the building. The hospital bell would ring, and away the gray dressing gowns would go, flapping and fluttering like a flock of turkeys, perhaps in the middle of a lesson. Or a baby would cry, and the mother would have to drop her book and carry it home. Sometimes there were so many babies that the room looked more like a nursery than a school. Children who had little ones left in their charge while their parents were at work, brought them to school rather than stay away themselves. Two or three came regularly with a baby and a cup of hominy. They would roll the baby in a shawl and lay it on the floor, and once in a while take it up and feed it with hominy, giving it an occasional shake to make it swallow faster.

You wonder they could learn anything in such a place, amid so much confusion and irregularity. "Where there's a will, there's a way." These children had the will, and it was wonderful what they accomplished.

As soon as the children had learned to write a little, they developed a perfect passion for writing letters to their teachers. They frequently took this method of making known their wants. The usual plan was to write the letter on their slates with their lesson, to make sure of its being noticed. I once returned a slate rather hastily, after looking at the figures, and the owner, a boy, handed it back, remarking, "Dar's a letter un'erneaf." And I read:

"MI DEER TEECHUR i luv you please give me A pare of *pancks*."

He had been overlooked in the distribution of clothing, and this was to remind me of the fact. Whatever this epistle lacks, it certainly possesses the rare merit of being short and to the point.

In Washington I met with the only child I ever saw who really could not learn. He was bright enough about work or play, but seemed absolutely incapable of learning anything in school. Having tried every way to teach him his letters, without success, I asked one day if he would not like to learn to spell his name. He said "yes," and seemed to brighten up a little. So I printed on the slate a big B, then an I, and so on, till he had Billy before him. After working several days with this, I said, "Now can't you spell Billy, and point out the letters?"

"Yaas'm." But with no attempt to do it.

"Well," I said, "let me hear you. Spell Billy."

"T-h-e, Billy."

Finding that this result of a month's teaching was not entirely satisfactory, he thought a while, then said, "Kin spell it noder way."

"Well, try once more. Now call each letter as I point to it."

"H a-m, Billy."

This final effort not being received with the unmixed approbation that Billy considered his due, he gave up in disgust, shook the dust of the school room from his feet, and a few days afterwards hailed me from a dirt cart, which he was driving at a break-neck speed down Pennsylvania Avenue. Pulling his horse up with a jerk, which, if he did not dislocate the animal's neck, was sufficient to have done so, he shouted to me, attracting the attention of all the passers-by.

"Ain't gwine ter school no mo'. Don't like it. Likes dis yer heap better. But kin spell Billy now. T-h-e, Billy. Coming ter see yer some day. Git up."

And the cart rattled down the street, with Billy triumphantly erect; the rags of his jacket and the rim of his hat flapping in time with the motion.

We had some comical times in our first Sunday school. The children could not understand how a Sunday school differed from any other, and the first Sunday they brought their slates, and wanted to have copies set, and to "do sums." There was one boy who was always asking questions; queer questions they were too. I used to wish sometimes that I could take the top of his head off for a minute and look inside, to see what kind of brain it was that thought of such things. One Sunday the lesson was upon the Creation. He raised his hand to signify that he wanted to ask a question. "Well, what is it?"

"Yer say dar war on'y one man den?"

"Yes, there was only one man."

"Dar warn't no oder man, no place, nowhars?"

"No, there was no other man on the earth."

"Den ef dar war on'y one man, an' dat ar man was ter sell a cow, I jes' went ter know how he gwine do it."

Some picture cards were sent to the school, and the children were told that every one who would learn a verse and repeat it the next Sunday, should have one. Among the boys was one who rejoiced in the name of Thomas Abraham Lincoln Johnson; nor, as he pronounced it, "Tum's Ab'um Linkum Jawnson." When the superintendent asked how many had verses to repeat, several hands went up, but Thomas Abraham Lincoln succeeded in making himself particularly conspicuous, and was called upon first. He marched up to the platform, and straightened himself up, repeated slowly, emphasizing every word:

Great news is come ter town, great news is carried,
Great news is come ter town, John Jones is married.
Fus' he buyed a hoss'ry pot, an' den he buyed a lassie,
An' den he buyed a cookie'-stove, an' den he buyed a table.

And amid the murmured applause of the children, who seemed to regard this as a most touching and appropriate selection, Thomas Abraham Lincoln retired to his seat, with the air of a "conquering hero."—*Our Young Folks.*

Wit and Humor.

AN OREGON LAY.

BY JOHN PHŒNIX.

Among them that came up to speculate in stock and supplies,
Was a fellow named Stewart, a man of enterprise;
He bought him a switch-tailed sorrel, two years old, which had a white face,
And he bantered all Portland, O. T., for a three hundred yard race.

Thar was a man had a horse, which he thought her pretty fair,
She was generally know'd as Millard's thousand dollar mare:
He hadn't any idea, he said, of doing anything so rash,
But he took up Mister Stewart for two hundred dollars cash.

So every soul in Portland, O. T., went straight down to the course,
And every cent we horryed we bet on Millard's horse,
And thar was that speckilating Stewart with his hand upon his hip,
And two men a following with a tin pail full of dollars and a basket full of scrip!

Well, they measured off the ground and the horses got a start
And came running down right pretty, about four feet apart;
And the Millard mare had it all her own way, as everybody said,
Till just as they got to the end of the track, the sorrel shot sunthin' like ten feet ahead!

Arter we seen that, thar riz a most surprising din,
And remarks like this 'ere followed, "Dog my everl-astin' skin,"
"I'll be dod-derned, and dog-goned, and ding-bam ed by Pike."
And thar was such a wiful howling, and swearing, and ca cuss, that many old people said they had never seen the like.

And that are speckilatin' Stewart, he made matters wuss;
He packed the money in a hand-cart, and didn't care a cuss;
And sweetly smiling, pulled it off, as though he didn't mind the heft;
And since then we hain't paid no taxes, nor bought nothing, nor sold nothing, for I do suppose that in all Portland, O. T., there ain't a single red cent left.

Secretary Robeson's Case of Brandy.

From the New York Sun.

Mr. William J. Healy is a Paymaster in the United States Navy, and lives in Brooklyn. Some time ago Paymaster Healy received from the Navy Department a letter directing him to adjust his accounts and forward them without delay to the Secretary of the Navy for settlement. The officer did the necessary figuring on his books, and, at the expiration of a week, prepared to send them to Washington as directed. Having no box in which to pack them for shipment, he dropped into the Bank oyster house on Fulton street, where he is known, and asked for one. The only box the proprietor could furnish was an old brandy case. On the case were sundry marks and inscriptions, such as "James Hennessey & Co.," "Cognac, S. O. P.," "Vintage 1836," and the like. The Paymaster took the box, packed up his books, nailed down the lid, and addressed it to "the Hon. George M. Robeson, Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C." He then sent it to the express office and carefully took a receipt. A week elapsed and Mr. Healy heard nothing of his box. In a day or two more he received a sharp letter from Secretary Robeson calling his attention to the fact that his accounts had not been forwarded to the department, as ordered, and threatening a furlough unless the department's previous order was immediately complied with. Mr. Healy was surprised, but he put his express receipt in his pocket and started for Washington, filled with indignation at the express company for their carelessness. He went to the Navy Department, and told his story. A search was at once begun. Old Lindsay Muse, the venerable colored messenger, who had been on duty at the Secretary's door for forty years, raked among the rubbish and dived into dusty corners in vain. Mr. Healy's box could't be found. Fully charged with anger, and sternly resolved to explode it upon the heads of unlucky expressmen, Mr. Healy retired to their office. He was shown there a book in which are kept the company's receipts for packages delivered. Opposite the entry of Mr. Healy's box was discovered the signature of George M. Robeson, written with his own hand. More puzzled than ever, Mr. Healy, with the messenger bearing the book again sought the Navy Department. He asked to see the Secretary, and was shown in. "That's my signature," said Mr. Robeson, "but how it got there, I don't know." The Secretary rested his head on his hand and thought a minute. Presently he looked up. "Mr. Healy, what kind of a box was yours?" "Oh, it was a common board box," said Mr. Healy. "It was an old brandy case." "Ah!" said the Secretary, and a rosy blush overspread his classic features. "May be my colored servant John can tell about that box," and the Secretary rapped his bell. John soon appeared. The Secretary said, "John, we are looking for a box which I think you must by some mistake have taken up to the house." "What kind of a box, sah?" inquired John. Mr. Healy answered that it was a brandy case. "Oh! I 'member dat well. Dat was the case o' brandy Mass' Robeson tole me to take to de house las' week. Yes, sah, I got it up dar in de wine closet." When Mr. Healy went to the house, sure enough there was his box of books in Mr. Robeson's wine closet.

Taking his Measure.

A New Orleans writer tells the following story:

There is upon our long list of acquaintances a long, lean, lank fellow, who, though "a hard 'un to look at," has a perfect mania for paying practical jokes—and little does it concern him whether they are of a gay or of a grave character, and he is equally indifferent upon the subject of whether the victim be an acquaintance or an entire stranger.

The devil may care acquaintance has several peculiarities of *personnel* by which his friends readily recognize him, and they have furnished him with as many aliases as are possessed by the most notorious traveling professional that ever had his mug displayed in a rogues' gallery. His left eye is very much *slalaced*, and this blemish has brought about with him a habit of carrying his head over on the left shoulder, and this habit again has given him the *soubriquet* of "Crooked-necked Joe."

One of Joe's latest jokes was played off upon a stranger, who came into the city by the Jackson train during the recent yellow fever scare.

The cars had emptied out their cargo of passengers, and one greenish, country looking coup stood apart from the crowd with carpet bag in hand, evidently at a loss as to what he should do with himself. He had not stood long before Joe went for him.

"Five feet in length, two feet eleven across the breast, eighteen inches through," said Joe, looking the new arrival as straight in the face as his crooked neck would allow, not cracking a smile, and drawing from his pocket a tape line with which he was about to verify his estimated measurement.

"What do you mean, sir?" eagerly inquired the stranger.

"Why, it 'sall right," said Joe, putting the tape line back in his pocket. "Your measure five feet nine, by two feet eleven by eighteen. "I'll be ready for you by nine o'clock in the morning."

"What have you to do with my measurement, sir? What is to be ready by nine o'clock in the morning, sir? What are you driving at, sir?" inquired the countryman, excitedly and angrily.

"Why, you see," said Joe, "I'm the city undertaker and the yellow fever is killing the strangers off so rapidly that I have to get their measures as they come into the city. If I didn't you see, sir, the dead bodies would accumulate on my hands."

At this an unusual pallor came over the features of the countryman; his whole body was in a quiver, and turning to the baggage master, he said:—"Look here, mister. Check my baggage back up the road. I goes home by the next train."

Forgot his Text.

The Second Presbyterian Church of Danville, Kentucky, being without a pastor, the different ministers of the town, especially those connected with the theological seminary, preach alternately to the orphan congregation, and lately it was Dr. Yerkey's turn to deliver a sermon to a large assembly. In an eloquent oration he uttered the words of Divine truth, when suddenly—horrible dictu!—a member affected with a bad cold commenced blowing his nose most, violently. A terrible blowing it was—such as you never heard before in all your life, and such as the poor doctor hopes never to hear again. It evidently had swept the whole of the beautiful sermon out of his memory, and having no notes about him, he tried, in vain, to restore the broken connection. But, alas! he could discover neither end, and the frightened doctor exclaimed:

"Brother M'Mullen, will you oblige me by repeating the text!"

The reverend brother arose, thought a while, stammered, hesitated, and sat down again. He gave it up.

"Please, will any one in the congregation let me know my text?"

After a long pause a student said, "I Corinthians, x. 16"

Relieved from a great burden, the happy doctor opened the bible, but only to find that it was a sad mistake.

"This is not the right one. Please, can any one recollect the text?"

A dead silence followed. Professor Beatty, of Centre College, rubbed his head in despair, but he neither rubbed the text out nor into it. Rev. Mr. Johnson and many of his brethren, together with the whole congregation, all were unable to find the lost darling. The laughter which followed now was indescribable, and quite a time passed before the house could be called to order. It being finally restored, the doctor called on Mr. M'Mullen to close the meeting with prayer, and all adjourned, perfectly convinced that they had listened to one of the most remarkable sermons ever preached.

The Squire's Indigestion.

Old Squire H—— was a very successful and substantial farmer, in an interior town of Massachusetts, and a more amazing eater never lived in any town anywhere. And especially much did he eat when fresh pork was to be his nourishment.

Well, at a certain time one of his hogs had been killed. The next morning there was to be fresh pork for breakfast, and the old man ate most wondrously. In the course of the forenoon he ate his luncheon, consisting of bread and butter, mince-pie and cheese. At noon his dinner consisted of fresh pork, pickles, mince pie, and the usual accompaniments. His afternoon luncheon was like that of the forenoon. When he came home to supper, his favorite dish had not been prepared as part of that meal. The old man fretted and scolded till fresh pork was added to the substantials. He ate voraciously as usual.

In the evening he tossed some cheese, buttered and ate it. Just before going to bed, he roasted a couple of apples and ate them. In the night he was taken with a severe colic, the doctor was with him till morning, and nearly wrought a miracle in the old man's life. The next day Boiles W., one of his neighbors, went in to condole with old Squire.

"Faithful Boiles," said the old worthy, "I like to have died last night. But never eat another roast apple as long as I live. I never did love them very well; and last night I ate only two, and they nearly killed me."

THE NATURE OF AN OATH.—Early in the rebellion, when the Federal forces were stationed at Beaufort, S. C., there was an old darkey by the name of Lige Jackson, who, deserted by his master, was left to take care of himself as best he might. Lige was considered a chattel of weak intellect, and moreover he was exceedingly awkward in his attempts to play the role of a house servant. He smashed and destroyed pretty nearly everything he laid his hands upon, and having waited upon nearly every officer at the post, each in turn, after giving him the benefit of a good cursing for his stupidity, turned him adrift.

It happened that Lige was a witness in a case that came before a court martial, and being called up to give his testimony, was objected to on the part of the defendant, who stated that he didn't believe the nigger was of sound mind.

"Stand up, Lige," said the court. "Do you understand the nature of an oath?"

Lige scratched his wool for a moment, and then turning up the whites of his eyes, replied: "Look a-yeare, marse; dis nigger has waited on 'bout haf de ossifers since dey fus cum to dis place, and if he don't stand de natur, or an oat by dis time, den dares no wirtu in cussing?"

The court considered Lige a competent witness.

COULD DO BETTER.—It is related by a distinguished attorney that a few days since his gloomy office was entered by a very charming presence, which, on looking up, he discovered to be a lady. She was very young, very pretty, and, of course, bewitching.

"Are you Mr. ——, the lawyer?" she asked.

"Yes, madam; pray be seated. In what way can I serve you?" asked the lawyer blandly.

"I want a divorce, sir."

"You want a divorce?" cried the astonished counsel; "why who in the world could have the heart to separate from so beautiful a lady?"

"No one that I know of. It is not the man that wishes to leave me, I want to leave the man."

"Oh, I perceive; but why?"

"Well, nothing in particular; but, to tell the truth, I can do better."

G. S. Cleveland, of Hartford, Conn., long postmaster, is known to a wide circle as one of the best fellows in the world, however erratic his political course may have been. An estrangement took place between him and an esteemed personal friend on account of politics. Says some one to the friend, "Why don't you and Cleveland make up, you used to be such good friends?" "Make up," was the reply, "never! I wouldn't go to his funeral." This was duly reported to "Cleve." "So and so says he wouldn't go to your funeral." "Ah indeed," says Cleveland, with his remarkable urbanity. "Ah! he wouldn't go to my funeral.—Tell him I am not so; I bear no such malice; I would be most happy to go to his funeral." The ready and brilliant retort brought about the reconciliation.

Miscellany.

SMALL-POX.

Vaccination and its Protective Power.

BY J. W. SOUTHWORTH, M. D.

Small-pox being one of the most loathesome, disfiguring and fatal diseases that we are subject to, the facts relating to its prevention are evidently of the greatest importance to mankind.

To disseminate these facts, as well as to place the subject of vaccination in its proper light before the public, the following article is written. For, strange as it may seem, it is not uncommon to find in this enlightened country, people prejudiced against vaccination.

The Chinese and the Brahmins of India have, it is said, practised "inoculation" or "grafting" of the disease from time immemorial. This consists in introducing the virus or poison of small pox into the system through a small puncture or wound in the skin, which gave rise to a milder and less fatal form than the natural small pox; which of course was communicated by the entrance of the poison through the lungs. Why this should be no one has ever satisfactorily explained, yet the fact was a well established one, and the death rate only about one in a thousand, as shown by hospital statistics. This was generally adopted in England during the middle of the 17th century, and in Asia as well. A striking illustration of the protective power of inoculation against death is shown by the following narration by an English naval captain: "While in a tropical climate sixteen of my crew took small pox in the natural way and nine of them died. The rest, three hundred and sixty-three in number, were immediately inoculated and, not one of them perished!"

But a far superior measure was accidentally discovered and applied by the magnanimous and immortal Jenner; to whose inquiring and reflective genius, as well as self-sacrificing endeavors to benefit the race, we owe that inestimable boon, "Vaccination." Magnanimous, I said, what I mean by it, is readily appreciated when I state that had he been disposed, he could have kept his secret from the world; and amassed countless millions by its retention to himself alone. But great and noble man that he was, he strove to promulgate the truth of his discovery to all men. Prejudice in the Profession of Medicine and out of it, met him at the very outset. Even the foolish notion, that it was unnatural and impious to engraft a disease taken from the brute creation and transfer it to Christians. Other objections having no foundation in fact, were made of which I will not speak. One, however, (that other diseases might be propagated along with it,) is a well founded one, and will claim attention further on. The cause of vaccination soon triumphed over the bug-bears of prejudice, and in six years it was known to every nation on earth; and the name of Jenner praised in every language known to man. The manner of discovery was this: He found among the dairymen of Gloucestershire a popular belief that persons who had contracted sore hands from milking cows that had an eruption—called cow-pox—on the teats and udder, were not liable to take small pox. Getting permission to inoculate these persons with matter from small pox patients, he found that the belief was well founded. He soon conceived the great and all important idea of transferring the cow pox (technically called Vaccinia) from one person to another, and thus gaining freedom from that dread malady for all the world, by universal "Vaccination," as the process is now called.

He soon found that all who had sore hands from milking were not proof against small pox. On investigating the matter with his accustomed sagacity and care, he discovered that there were several kinds of sore teats and that only one of these conferred immunity from small pox, and only at a certain stage of the affection in the cow was this wonderful principle developed; and when taken from the cow at that period and introduced into the system through the skin, it gave rise to a fever and an eruption in man similar to that of the cow. And further, that only after these effects were produced was there safety from the invasion from the small pox.

It took years of patient and careful investigation and experiment to establish this momentous fact: but Dr. Jenner's sagacious and reflective mind as well as philanthropic disposition led him on to the goal of his ambition, and a world was saved. Proud moment to the patient toiler after the grandest truth, the greatest gift to man, when he triumphed over the fell destroyer of the human race!

But does the name of Jenner get its deserved and well earned tribute? Hardly, I may say, for many are not aware of the existence of such a person in the years gone by. And strange as it may seem, in the very country where he achieved his renown, a compulsory act had to be passed in 1853 to insure universal vaccination, but I believe it is a dead letter now. Still in their praise be it said that a colossal statue of Jenner stands in London to-day. In Denmark small pox was completely eradicated by compulsory vaccination, and in Paris it is now being enforced to the great good of the imprisoned and besieged inhabitants.

It was assertained that cow pox was nothing more or less than small pox in the Cow. The inoculation of cows with the virus of Small Pox from man, was found by experiment to produce the same train of symptoms, and that by transferring the matter from the cow back again to the human being, gave rise to the same disease as when they got it accidently from milking affected cows, and also that power of protection from small pox was equally great; thus established the identity of the two affections. How the wonderful mysterious change in the virulence, this subtle poison is effected by its development in the lower animals still is, and, probably always will remain unknown.

The insertion of matter derived from a cow that has small pox, into the human subject, is what is known as vaccination. It may be passed through (as we say) thousands of individuals; yet, if scrupulous care is exercised in everything pertaining to it, its power of protection is not diminished. Still such care is not always taken and we find that it does diminish; therefore it becomes necessary to renew it from the cow.—When it is recently obtained from that source it produces double the inflammation at the point of insertion than it does after a dozen transmittals through the human subject; nor does the smaller amount of local inflammation lessen its protective power.

That vaccination should give *absolute* protection against small pox, for a *life time*, is not to be maintained; when there are well authenticated instances of a recurrence of small pox in those who have had it. We cannot expect vaccination to accomplish more than small pox itself; but we know it is equal in protective power, or nearly so.

There are a few persons who are proof against small pox, and vaccination as well. Again, there are those who are peculiarly susceptible to small pox, and are subject to repeated attacks and who take the disease even after *repeated vaccination*. But these persons are not usually affected severely. These facts explain some of the apparesent inconsistencies relative to the protection by vaccination.

The preservative power is, however, nearly absolute for the majority during life, and for the minority it is limited to a few years more or less, according to the age of the individual when vaccinated. Lasting, when done in infancy to the age of ten or twelve, after which time they are liable to small pox.

Vaccination, in addition to its preventive virtues, so modifies the system in all persons that even when small pox does attack the individual, it is in a much milder form, scarcely disfigures; and hardly ever causes death.

The preventive power being lessened with the lapse of years, it becomes necessary to repeat it once in from seven to ten years to maintain protection. But in those who have been vaccinated in infancy it is not necessary to repeat it until after the tenth or twelfth year, unless there is decided exposure. It is customary with some physicians to revaccinate themselves on every decided and prolonged exposure to small-pox. I might just here add that on being fully exposed to several cases during the summer of 1869, I did not take the above precaution. Having been vaccinated 9 years previously, the protection was lessened, and I soon found myself affected with fever and the other symptoms of small pox. I was sick a few days, in bed part of the time, but recovered without any visible eruption. In fact had small pox fever or varioloid fever. Varioloid being the technical term for small pox when it is mitigated by vaccination.

In those who are protected by previous vaccinations the vaccine matter will not "work," as the saying is. Thus proving, so far as can be proved, the non-liability of such persons to small pox. In those cases where it does "work," it is highly probable that they were liable to it, but not certainly.

The age at which vaccination should be first performed has been subject to considerable discussion among medical men. Generally speaking, the fourth month is an eligible period, as it is prior to the process of teething. Still that is no great bar to its performance. However, should small pox be prevalent in the community, no one should hesitate to have their children vaccinated it only a few days old; for the mortality of infants is fearfully great, one-half of them dying from it when attacked. The mortality of adults being from 30 to 35 per cent.

Can You Afford It?

Can you afford to work hard all day, and read, study, or court the vagaries of society nearly all night, thus wasting your vitality, exhausting your nervous system, and bringing on premature disease, decay, and old age?

Can you afford to read fine print with a poor light in a rail car, where the motion disturbs the proper focus of vision, thus weakening your eyes so as to nearly deprive you of the power to use them either in reading or to the daily duties of life? Even though you do not have an oculist to pay, you may be obliged to wear glasses ten or fifteen years sooner than you otherwise would; can you afford thus to spoil your eyes to save a little time?

Can you afford to eat hastily, and then rush to study or business, withdrawing the nervous energy from the digestive system to the brain and muscles, and thus inducing dyspepsia, in a few years at most, to scourge, and haunt, and make you miserable for years, or for your life?

Can you afford to live on rich and highly seasoned food, eat champagne suppers, because an artificial appetite is thus gratified, rendering gout, dyspepsia, or appoplexy, in the middle of life, almost a certainty.

Can you afford to commit suicide through the indulgence of appetite and passion, adopting the fool's motto: "A short life and a happy one!"

Can you afford to keep your brain boiling hot in reading sensational novels, thus unbalancing and rendering morbid your mental and physical constitution?

Can you afford to indulge in fast living, dressing beyond your means, driving livery horses, or keeping a horse yourself, when your income is not adequate to such expenses!

Can you afford to smoke and chew tobacco, thus spending from five to fifty dollars a month, and injuring your nervous system, and perverting your whole constitution, and thereby transmitting to children a weakened constitution, thus making them puny invalids for life?

Can you afford to burn your nervous system and demoralize your whole character by the use of alcoholic liquors?

Can you afford to indulge in habits of speculation, gambling, and other tricky and mean modes of making money?

Can you afford to make money at the expense of your manhood, your morals, your just respectability and your integrity?

Can you afford to gain even the whole world and thereby make of yourself a moral wreck?

Can you afford, for the sake of momentary amusement, to waste your youthful preparatory years, when by study you should become a scholar, or by industry a tradesman or a useful artisan?

Can you afford to rob your mind to clothe your back with silks and satins and gratify a mere love for display?

Can you afford to be tricky and thereby defraud your employer of the just services you owe him, even though you do get your pay, thus making yourself a moral bankrupt?

Can you afford to be otherwise than upright, truthful, faithful, temperate, courteous, and in all respects correct?

Pupils in school sometimes fancy they are doing a smart thing by deceiving the teacher, that they may play instead of study. Apprentices often neglect their duty for fun and amusement, and fail to learn their trade, which is a life-long injury to them. Many people do wrong knowingly, and thus mar their moral nature and make themselves feel mean, unworthy and despicable, and because the world don't know it, they think they have done themselves no harm; but they carry the moral scar of wrong doing through life. Can one afford to have a motto adverse to the old adage, that "Honesty is the best policy?"

Reader, stop and consider whether what you are doing, or what you propose to do, will pay; whether you can afford to do it. "Time is money;" do not throw it away, but make every day and every hour tell either for your growth, health, or profit.—*Phrenological Journal.*

☞ The defeat of Tammany excited great attention abroad. Punch has a poem on the subject, one of the verses of which is as follows:

"The Republicans triumph the Union through,
And the Democrat leaders look bitter and blue;
O! the White House the President takes a new lease,
Office-seats for four years may be feathered in peace;
But better than all, let Columbia sing—
New York has got loose from the Tammany Ring!"

George C. Washington, one of the few surviving relatives of General George Washington, died Monday afternoon, at his residence in Georgetown, of consumption. He was a son of the late Bufarus Washington, of Fairfax county.

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Farm and House.

THE COUNTRY LIFE.

BY R. H. ST. DRAID.

Not what we would, but what we must,
Makes up the sum of living;
Heaven is born more and less than just
In taking and in giving.
Swords clave to hands that sought the plow,
And laurels miss the cradle's brow.

Me whom the city holds, whose feet
Have worn its stony highways,
Familiar with its loneliest street,—
Its ways were never my ways,
My cradle was beside the sea,
And there, I hope, my home will be.

Old homesteads!—in that old, gray town,
Thy vane is seaward veering;
Thy ship of garden stretches down
To where the tide is flowing;
Below they lie, their sails all furled,
The ships that go about the world.

Dearer, that little country house,
Inland, with pines behind it;
Some peach trees, with unnatural boughs,
A well, with weeds to hide it;
No flowers, or only such as rise
Self-sown—poor things!—which all despise.

Dear country home! can I forget
The least of thy sweet tribes?
The window vines that clamber wet,
Whose bloom the bee still rifles?
The roadside blackberries growing ripe
And in the woods the Indian pipe

Happy the man who tills his field,
Content with rustic labor;
Earth does to him her fullness yield
Hap what may to his neighbor.
Well days, sound nights—oh! can there be
A life more rational and free?

Dear country life of child and man!
For both the best and strongest,
That with the earliest race began
And has outlived the longest;
Their cities perished long ago;
Who the first farmers were, we know.

Perhaps our Babels too will fall,
If so, no lamentations.
For Mother Earth shall shelter all,
And feed the unborn nations!
Yes, and the swords that menace now
Will then the beaten to the plow.

DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

FLAVOR FOR PUDDING.—Peach kernels or rose leaves steeped in brandy make an agreeable flavor for puddings, cakes, etc

APPLE MERINGUE.—Pare, core, and stew ten apples in as little water as possible; season as sauce, putting in a very little butter. Put into a pudding dish in a cool oven; add the beaten whites of four eggs as you would icing; sprinkle sugar on top, and brown. A little custard may be used, instead of apple, in cups, sweetening and flavoring it.

BREAKFAST ROLLS.—Pour sufficient quantity of boiling water on one pint of corn-meal to make a thick gruel; then let it stand until nearly cold; then add salt and one large spoonful of yeast; mix in wheat flour until it is a stiff dough; knead it well, and then let it stand in a warm place for seven or eight hours to rise; when light make into rolls, and bake one hour.

SCOTTERED POTATOES.—The Scotch have a way of scottering potatoes which a friend pronounces delicious. Potatoes that have been boiled whole (left over from dinner) make this palatable breakfast dish, by laying them on live coals and turning them until the brownness of toast is acquired. Eat with salt and butter to taste.

FRUIT CAKE.—One pound sugar, 1 pound butter, 10 eggs, 1 pound raisins, 1 of citron, 1 of currants; chop and rub the fruit into 1 pound of flour, 1 cup molasses, 1 teaspoon soda foamed in the molasses, 1 nutmeg, ½ cup of cloves and cinnamon; put the fruit and flour in last.—These ingredients will make two good sized loaves, and will keep a year.

AMERICAN CEMENT.—Soak isinglass in water till soft, then dissolve it in proof spirit; add a little gum ammoniac, and mix it with one fourth the quantity of tincture of mastic. It must be well stopped, and when wanted, liquified, by the phial being immersed in hot water. Used to cement jewels upon watch cases; also to mend china, or replace leaves torn out of books.

BLACKING FOR LADIES' AND CHILDRENS' SHOES.—Take good black ink and mix with dissolved gum-arabic. Apply with a brush or sponge.

Fire Wood.

It is well known to every farmer that there is a very great difference in the value of different kinds of wood and that some woods are much more valuable for special purposes than others. Generally speaking, a wood of great soundness and weight, where the fibres are densely packed together in the process of growth, is worth the most for fuel where a steady fire is wanted, but woods of a lighter quality, like the pines, the birches, the poplars, etc., are better for kindling and a quick short fire. Every one is familiar with the fact that there are two distinct stages in the burning of wood. In the first, the heat given off arises chiefly from the flame. In the second it arises chiefly from the live and red hot coals. Soft woods are more active in the first stage, and hard woods more active in the second, that is, soft woods, like pine and other light woods, burn with a greater body of flame and leave very little coal to retain and give off its heat, while hard woods give off less flame, but yield a larger bed of coals, and it is this quality that is wanted in cold weather to retain and keep up the warmth of the room.

But it is worth bearing in mind that there is a very considerable difference in woods of the same species, according to the manner and the soil on which they grow. A maple that grows slowly on an upland pasture, standing alone or apart from other trees, will last much longer and give out a greater degree of heat than one that grows in a swamp, or in the midst of a dense forest. A tree that grows in a forest, or on wet, low, rich ground, will be less solid, and less durable for fuel, and consequently less valuable, than a tree of the same kind that grows on a dry and poorer soil. For sale, to be sure, one would be just as good as the other. To the purchaser, oak is oak, and pine is pine, but for home consumption, the tree grown on dry upland and standing apart from others is worth a great deal more.

It is a great convenience to know the comparative value of different kinds of wood for fuel. Taking shellbark hickory as the highest standard of our forest trees, and calling that one hundred, other trees will compare with it for real value as fuel as follows:

Shellbark Hickory	100	Yellow Oak	60
Pignut Hickory	95	Hard Maple	59
White Oak	84	White Elm	58
White Ash	77	Red Cedar	56
Dog-wood	75	Wild Cherry	55
Scrub Oak	73	Yellow Pine	54
White Hazel	72	Chestnut	52
Apple Tree	70	Yellow Poplar	52
Red Oak	69	Butternut	51
White Beech	65	White Birch	43
Black Walnut	65	White Pine	40
Black Birch	62		

The smaller stuff that can often be gathered on a farm, like alders and brush, such as is easily made up into faggots, has a value somewhat below good white pine, but for a kitchen fire in summer, and for kindling a hard-wood fire in winter, it has very considerable value, though the cost and trouble of handling and preparing it is great.—*Massachusetts Ploughman.*

Hogs at the Chicago Slaughter Houses.

A Chicago paper describes the operations at the slaughter houses in the following style:

These slaughter houses dress from 1,600 to 2,000 hogs each per day. Just think of it! From 100 to 200 hogs an hour to go in at one end of the house, grunting, lazy hogs, and to come out at the other end in a great variety of pork products. The foreman at Higgins' slaughter house showed us through the establishment, where they were killing 1,300 a day, or 130 an hour. The live hogs were in one of the large pens that form a part of the Stock Yards. From this pen there is a wide viaduct that leads to the third floor of the slaughter house. The hogs crowd up this viaduct of their own free will, and are ready to enter the slaughter room. They are let into this in lots, as required. There are two or three small pens, each smaller than the other, the last one large enough to hold half a dozen. A man stands at one side of the narrow entrance, and the place is wedged full of porkers. He attaches a small chain to a hind leg. A boy hands him another chain that is attached to a steam hoisting apparatus.—This is hitched into the ring of the small chain, the machinery put in motion, and the hog is soon hanging by one leg to a pulley that may be moved along an iron way. One man does the sticking, and passes the hogs to the scalder. A long vat is used for scalding. The hogs pass through, and are thrown out on the cleaning table by a tilting apparatus.—The hair is removed and the pig is hung up and washed off with a hose. One man takes out the entrails, at the rate of two and a half per minute. These are thrown into a wheelbarrow, and dumped with the heads, trimmings of the hams, and other fatty portions, into steam tight tanks where they are rendered into snowy "steam-rendered lard." The porker thus prepared, is passed into the cooling room, whence he is taken to the cutting room, and there divided into hams, shoulders, middles, short ribs and mess as required. The loss in dressing is about 18 per cent. The prices range on foot $3 70@4 05, dressed $4 25@4.50. This shows that live hogs are more sought after than dressed ones, and command a better price.

In packing, solar salt, from New York, or alum from Kentucky or Turk's Island, are used at the rate of half a bushel by measure to the barrel of 200 lbs.

In the curing of hams, a brine is made of coarse salt to the point of solution; that is, all the salt that cold water will dissolve. One hundred pounds of ham will require from six to eight pounds of salt. To this is added one-fourth of a pound of saltpetre and one quart of the best quality of syrup. The hams are put in this for sixty days, when they go to the smoke house. The hams should be taken out the brine once a week to air, or, if put into tight casks, should be rolled over almost daily. This is the way in which Chicago sugar-cured hams are prepared. I have put up hams for many years very nearly after the same recipe, with great satisfaction.

Method of Ascertaining the Weight of Cattle While living.

This is of the utmost utility for all those who are not experienced judges by the eye; and by the following directions, the weight can be ascertained within a mere trifle: Take a string, put it around the beast, standing square, just behind the shoulder blade; measure on a foot-rule the feet and inches the animal is in circumference—this is called the girth; then, with the string, measure from the bone of the tail which plumbs the line with the hinder part of the buttock, direct the line along the back to the fore part of the shoulder blade; take the dimensions on the foot rule as before, which is the length, and work the figures in the following manner: Girth of the bullock, 6 feet 4 inches; length, 5 feet 3 inches; which, multiplied together, make 31 square superficial fee.; that again multiplied by 23 (the number of pounds allowed to each superficial foot of cattle measuring less than 7, and more than 5 in girth,) makes 713 pounds; and allowing 14 pounds to the stone, is 59 stone 13 pounds. When the animal measures less than 9, and more than 7 feet in girth, 31 is the number of pounds to each superficial foot. Again, suppose a big or any small beast should measure 2 feet in girth and 2 feet along the back, which, multiplied together, make 4 square feet; that multiplied by 11, the number of pounds allowed for each square foot of cattle measuring less than 3 feet in girth, makes 44 pounds; which, divided by 14 to bring it to stones, is 3 stone 2 pounds. Again, suppose a calf, a sheep, &c., &c., should measure 4 feet 6 inches in girth, and 3 feet 9 inches in length, which, multiplied together, make 16½ square feet; that multiplied by 16, the number of pounds, allowed to all cattle measuring less than 5 feet and more than 3 in girth, makes 264 pounds; which, divided by 14 to bring it to stones is 18 stone 12 pounds. The dimensions of the girth and length of back of cattle, sheep, calves or hogs, may be as exactly taken this way as is at all necessary for any computation or valuation of stock, and will answer exactly to the four quarters, sinking the offal, and which every man, who can get even a bit of chalk, can easily perform. A deduction must be made for a half fatted beast, of 1 stone in 20 from that of a fat one; and for a cow that has had calves, 1 stone must be allowed, and another for not being properly fat.—*Ex.*

Dressing Hogs—To Prevent Taint.

An exchange says to prevent the slaughtered hogs from becoming tainted the body should be split down the whole by dividing the backbone. This will admit the air, allow the animal heat to escape, and keep the meat sweet.

Quite cold weather will not always prevent a taint. It is supposed by some that it is even safer to dress when the thermometer stands at about 40 degrees. The reason given is, that when the weather is quite cold, the skin contracts and prevents the animal heat from escaping. Whether this is so or not, we do not know.

This, however, is quite certain—that if the carcass is split down, there will be little or no danger of the meat becoming tainted; if it is not, there is danger; and it is so trifling a work to do it, that it is very poor economy to omit it.

In sending hogs to market, it would undoubtedly be more convenient to handle them whole, than if cut apart, and it may be safe enough to keep them whole in such hogs as are usually sent long distances, those weighing only 200 to 300 pounds.

Horses Rubbing their Tails in the Stable.

A correspondent of the *Rural New Yorker* writes to that paper that he has broken many young horses of this practice by washing the dock with warm water and good, yellow, hard soap; then thoroughly dry the part with a clean, coarse cloth, keeping up the rubbing till the dock is not only dry but warmed by the friction. Then a liniment of new (warm) milk, (eight ounces) and spirits of turpentine (one ounce) is applied. Mix the liniment in a bottle, pour it into the palm of the hand and rub the dock thoroughly with it; avoid rubbing the tail on the under side as much as possible. Continue the application of the liniment daily, until the horse ceases rubbing.

Another correspondent says a little lard, occasionally, on the mane and tail of the horse will cause him to discontinue rubbing.

To Preserve Eggs.

The New York *Observer* says:

"The most convenient and satisfactory way to keep eggs fresh that we have ever tried, is to punch numerous holes in a tin pale, fill it with fresh eggs, lower the pale with the eggs into a kettle of melted tallow, which is as hot as can be without burning one's finger when thrust into the liquid; then lift the pail out quickly and the melted tallow will flow out, leaving a thin coating over every egg. Let the eggs be removed as soon as possible from the pail and be placed on the ends in a keg or barrel, which should be kept in a cool cellar until wanted for use. We have kept eggs in this manner more than six months, so fresh that expert judges supposed they were fresh. As the eggs are so much colder than the melted tallow, a thin pellicle of cold tallow will be formed almost instantly, which will render the shell impervious to air."

Hollow Horn in Cattle.

This disease begins in the tail of the animal. Any one who has seen it once can tell it by seeing if the tail has a twist in the brush on the end. It will be found, on examination, from one to four inches on the end, that the tail has no bone in it. Now slit this with a sharp knife up to the bone, and let it bleed freely, and you retard the disease. This horn disease is only peculiar to old cattle. When the horns are hollow, all life is gone from them, and no life remains in them more than in your finger nails when you cut them. You can bore them and inject vinegar and pepper into them, and plug them up until the fluid is absorbed and then inject in more; but the animal had better not be kept for milk, as it would not be healthy, but turned out and fattened for beef as soon as the disease is removed.—*Herdsman.*

Miscellany.

FURS THIS SEASON.

The Styles and the Prices.

The fashion column of *Harper's Bazar* gives this information concerning the styles and prices of furs this season:

Boas of fur are the fashionable choice this season, notwithstanding collars are far more comfortable. These boas vary in length from a mere neck-tie to those two yards long; a yard and a half or three quarters is the favorite length. When made of fur having long fleece the boa is round; the shorter furs, such as mink and seal skin, are usually flat boas. Muffs are small and round, and the handsomest are furnished with thick fsille ribbon, in preference to tassels of passementerie or fur.

The novelty this winter is sets of silver or black fox. These are very rare, and are as costly as Russian sable. The long fur is light gray, with occasionally a longer hair tinged with silver. It is as soft and downy as marabout feathers, and almost as perishable. A small muff of it costs $250. This fur is now prized above any other for trimming velvet cloaks. A border of fox fur half an inch wide on the leather side, making a trimming nearly three inches wide, as the fleece is long, costs from $10 to $12 a yard.

The black marten fur, sometimes called Alaska sable, is still considered exceedingly stylish. A set of it of excellent quality, consisting of long round boa and small muff, may be had for $35, some handsomer specimens cost $30 or $40. This is the popular and inexpensive fur trimming for cloth, cashmere, silk and velvet. In selecting this trimming readers are advised to buy that costing $3 or $4 a yard, instead of low-priced qualities, made worthless by dyes, or so badly dressed that the odor of the animal is discovered when the fur is worn in a warm room. A single narrow fur border, showing only two or three inches on the right side, is more stylish than a broader one or a double row of fur.

There is nothing new to relate of sables. Mink, though not so universally worn as formerly, is still a most desirable fur. Medium sets of dark mink of good quality cost from $60 to $80, according to length of boa; choicest dark mink sets are $125. Coarse light mink is sold very low.

Evening sets of ermine are small round muffs and very long boa, often more than two yards in length, wound around the neck. Fine sets cost from $45 to $55, according to the length of the boa. Very fine chinchilla sets are also worn on dressy occasions—price, $50.

A boa and muff of fur seal, make an inexpensive and serviceable set that will be worn by young ladies and misses. The boa costs from $5 to $25, the muff from $12 to $20.

Fur sacques, the most comfortable of all cloaks, are short this year, measuring from twenty four to twenty-six inches, and are made quite loose below, or else clashed to give room for a bouffant tournure. The newest have bell shaped sleeves (half flowing,) but the close coat sleeve is generally preferred. The sacque most in favor is of velvet-like fur seal, not in its natural wood-brown color, but that dyed a dark maroon shade. These are often bordered with other furs; but plain untrimmed sacques, handsomely fitted, are in best taste. Seventy-five dollars is the lowest price for a sacque of good sound seal skin, and this will not be of finest quality; handsomer qualities cost from $100 to $150. The various curly furs called Astrakhan are still worn in sacques. The reader is warned against buying these at very low prices, as those sold for $25 or $30 are apt to be of unsound leather that will not last a single winter. It is better economy to pay a reliable furrier $40 for an Astrakhan sacque that he will warrant to be good, sound skins, though not of fine quality; $75 buys a handsome curled fur sacque, and many cost as high as $150 or $260. Sets of these black furs are usually preferred for deep mourning.

For children there are sets of squirrel lock, made of the sides of the Siberian squirrel. The tiny muff and boa cost from $5 to $7. Sacques of white coney are shown for children from 8 to 11 years, and are also made for infants; these cost from $13 to $20.

Fur turbans for gentlemen have higher round crowns than those formerly worn. Made of seal, the fashionable fur gentlemen, they cost from $12 to $15; Astrakhan turbans are $6. The seal-skin facing on the collar and cuffs of a gentleman's overcoat cost from $30 to $40.

How the Ladies were Dressed at the Grand Duke's Reception in Washington.

The Washington *Star* gives the following account of the appearance of Madame Catacazy when she received the son of the Czar:

"No doubt the heart of the Grand Duke warmed as he looked upon his beautiful hostess, whose beauty was enhanced by a dress which was elegant in all its details. It was a pale buff *crepe de Paris, en train*, with a flounce round the bottom, bound with satin of the same color, and headed with pipings of the same and a pelisse of the crape. The overskirt was long, and trimmed to correspond with the lower skirt; it was looped high. The belt was of satin, and on each side, falling from it, were loops and ends of satin, finished with white Spanish blonde lace. Over a low neck white waist was a corsage of white stripped gauze, the front of which and the open sleeves were embroidered in gold. Around the throat was broad black velvet, with ends falling at the back far below the waist. Besides this velvet, a gold necklace was worn, with a diamond drop, and a locket with a half-inserted face in cameo. Her ear rings were large hoops of gold set with turquoises. Her lovely blonde hair was arranged in curls, falling over the shoulders and back, with braid across the front. On the left of the corset were a few choice natural flowers.

At the White House reception, the first arrival was the Secretary of the Interior and Mrs. Delano. They entered and passed directly across the hall into the Red Room. Secretary Delano wore a gentleman's walking suit, and Mrs Delano was dressed in a black velvet trained dress with high corsage, a lace shawl draped her shoulders, and on her head she wore a coiffure of rose colored ribbon. The Attorney General and Mrs. Akerman soon followed. This is almost the first appearance of Mrs. Akerman in Washington, as her few previous visits have been made during the quiet season, when she had no occasion to appear in public. She is a handsome woman, with dark hair and eyes, a remarkably fine figure, and graceful carriage. She wore a trained black silk of rich texture, with overdress of the same, handsomely trimmed; a basque of the same, and a maroon colored velvet bonnet. She passed with her husband immediately into the Red Room.

In the White House:

The Red Room, it is known, is Mrs. Grant's private parlor, and here was the lady of the White House, with her daughter, Miss Nellie Grant, Mrs. Secretary Delano, Mrs. Attorney General Akerman, and Mrs. Marshall Sharpe, and Miss Bessie Sharpe. Mrs Grant and the two young ladies, her daughter and Miss Sharpe, were dressed in demi toilette, black silk, with point lace collar and sleeves.

Mrs. Sharpe's dress was a pale green silk. All the ladies, except Mrs. Akerman, who wore a bonnet with maroon trimmings, had their heads uncovered, and their hair very plainly dressed. In the room were also old Mr. Dent, Mrs. Grant's father, and little Jesse Grant. The greetings were very brief, the conversation of the Prince being confined to a few words with Mrs. Grant and Miss Nellie. The introductions here were not so general as in the Blue Room, but the conversation was quite as informal and unconstrained. When the Prince was leaving he shook hands with the President and Mrs. and Miss Grant, but none of the others.

A ROMANTIC WEDDING.

An Imperial Present.

A wedding recently took place in New York that had the following bit of history connected with it: The gentleman, 10 years ago, was engaged to the lady, then a maiden of 18. He being 40, the parents opposed the match on account of the disparity in age. He left for Europe, and during his absence the young lady was wooed and won by a younger man. The young husband died last fall, leaving his widow still young and handsome, the mother of four children, and the first suitor, 50 years old, is considered an excellent match for the widow of 28. The lady wore a high necked, coat sleeved dress of mauve satin, with a tremendous train trimmed with folds of alternate satin and velvet the same shade, fully half way up the skirt. The overskirt was very full, and made entirely of velvet, edged with deep, rich chenille fringe. A splendid set of coral and diamond ornaments adorned her throat and ears, and her hair, dressed very plainly, was decorated with leaves of carved coral and flowers thickly set with diamonds, that formed a coronet. As the lady is a beautiful brunette, the dress was charmingly becoming, but the beauty of that bridal train as it entered the elegant saloon of the bride's mother, came after the handsome women and noble gray-haired bridegroom, for their sole attendants were the four children of the bride, dressed in white, the muslin only serving to sew the lace on what composed their dresses, with immense sashes of white satin, their crimped golden hair flowing loose. Nothing could be more lovely than the three of 'em, nine, seven and six years of age; but behind the three came a toddling wee thing of three, whose jet black eyes danced with delight as she passed down the room—her bits of hands in white kid gloves, and her lace dress worn over a pink slip.

Among the very elegant presents received by this lady is a cloak of the richest seal-skin, quite long, and bordered with the long-haired silver fox, and a muff of seal-skin, bordered like the cloak, completing the set. The lining is quilted in tiny rings, and made of claret colored satin, surrounded by a strip of gray satin, which is in keeping with the outside. The fastenings are of solid silver, with a bit of seal skin set in the center, and silver chains as loops. The glory of this garment lies in the fact that it was made according to the Empress Eugenie's orders, and was worn by her several times. With other portions of her wardrobe it fell into the hands of the auctioneer, and was sold in Paris a few months ago. To enhance its value, a glove, with Eugenie's crest upon the wrist, was left in the inside pocket. Very touching, but then the French understand these little details so well, I wouldn't be surprised if a glove, or a handkerchief, or perhaps a tear, was added by enterprising speculators to every garment.

Almost a Tragedy—The End of a Love Affair.

The Louisville *Courier-Journal* of a recent date says:

There is a gentleman of the middle age, who might be summoned as a witness for a walk of half a block, who assures us that there is never any sense in self-destruction. He declares that when he was a very young man he was madly in love. His love was returned, and there was every prospect of a happy result. Of a sudden, however, an event came to pass which put marriage out of the question. So what did this young gentleman—we mean this middle-aged gentleman who was at the time indicated a young gentleman)—what did this unfortunate young gentleman do? This is what he did. He went and purchased him two horse pistols; he dressed himself in his handsomest suit of clothes, and called at the farm house which sheltered the object of his heart's desire. It was a moonlit summer night. So what did this infatuated young man ask the young lady to do? He asked her to take a walk. The young lady—she was a very proper young lady and loved this young man quite to distraction—assented, of course, and they strolled. They strolled into a deep wood, "far from the haunts of men," and out of the reach of "any voice or eye." They sat down on a log, and this young gentleman very plainly told this young lady that they never could be man and wife, and all the whys and wherefores, which were indeed conclusive. The young lady, like an affectionate, dear girl as she was, began to cry, whereupon our hero produced his pistols, loaded to the muzzle with buckshot.

"Susan," says he, and there was solemnity in his voice and a terrible earnestness in his eye. "Susan," says he. Susan looked up frightened to behold the murderous weapons gleaming in the moonlight. "What are you going to do?" says she. "I am going to get over this in thirty minutes," he says, sternly taking out his watch, "and you shall do the same thing, or I'll kill you first and then kill myself. I mean it, Susan. Don't doubt it." She did not. She sat and mused, and he sat and meditated, and time ran along with the moonbeams that bound round the watch dial. At the end of twenty-nine minutes he said: "Time's up. I believe I had rather live without you, Susan, than die with you." "What do you say?"

"Them's my sentiments," says Susan. "Good," says this infatuated young man, replacing his watch in his vest pocket and firing off two horse pistols in the air, "Let's go home and say no more about it."

They went home. Susan was married to another gentleman inside a year. Our hero is still a bachelor—a jolly bachelor—with plenty of money, and friends, and health; and he says now and then, referring to this episode in his young career: "Now, wouldn't I have been a blasted fool if I had let the thirty minutes run out? Why, sir, Susan is old and fat and ugly, and has nine children, and as for me—why, I feel as young as a girl with ribbons."

A new version of the state of affairs in Japan is now given. It will be remembered that when the Mikado abolished the order of Daimios it was said that his action met with opposition. But now it is said that the Daimios themselves suggested the change. It appears that, according to the theory of the government of Japan, the Mikado is not only the head of the state but the person from whom every man of rank derives his place and authority. During the rule of the Tycoon the nobles acquired an almost independent authority, but on the transfer of the government, in 1869 from the Tycoon to the Mikado, the Dismias, it is said, where patriotic enough to propose to give up their acquired rights and privileges and again relapse into their ancient position. This is a strange story, and if a sound inference can be drawn from the struggles in Europe between the feudal lords and the kings, is to be believed. The apparent severity with which the Mikado made the change is a further reason for not accepting this story as true. The story, however, is supported by what purports to be an extract from the official journal of the empire, and the fact that no serious outbreak has followed the change, it must be admitted, indicates that there was some previous understanding between the spiritual emperor and the nobility.

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Shocks to the System.

The first shock of winter tells tremendously upon enfeebled systems. Every one knows that in passing from a warm region to a cold one or vice versa, the body requires as a protection against epidemics an acclimating medicine. All travelers and voyagers admit this. It is equally necessary to acclimate the system in passing the confines of one season and entering upon another. Autumn is gone and winter is here. Prepare the frame and constitution to meet the change by a course of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. This inestimable vegetable tonic increases the stamina and strength of those who take it, renders the proof to a great extent against the devitalizing power of cold and damp. These two agents are as prolific of disease as tropical heat and animal vigor—such vigor as this healthful and pure tonic diffuses through the whole organization—is a repellant which they cannot master. A large proportion of the colds, catarrhs, and pulmonary complaints which prevail in winter, might be avoided, by strengthening and regulating the system in advance with this invigorant and alterative. Not that it is recommended as a specific for those complaints, but as a preventive of their causes. On the other hand, it is not only a preventive of, but a specific for the indigestion, intestinal irregularities, malarious fevers, bilious attacks, and nervous affection, superinduced by a chilly and damp atmosphere. decliwlw

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To Correspondents.

In answer to numerous inquiries on the subject, we will repeat here that no paper must receive *at the same time* one subscriber for the BLADE or for each copy of any other publication ordered from our clubbing list. They need not both be sent to the same person, nor even to the same Post Office, but they must be ordered at the same time. For instance a person can not order the BLADE and then at some future time send the balance and order Harper's Monthly or Weekly, Godey's Lady's Book, Wide's Household Magazine, or some other publication from our clubbing list.—Both must be ordered at the same time. In renewals old as well as new subscribers may avail themselves of the offer made in our clubbing list. The magazine and papers are all sent direct from the office of publication to subscribers, so that there will be no delay in their receipt. No subscriptions received at clubbing rates for less than one year. That is, we can not receive one-half the amount specified in the clubbing list for the BLADE and some other publication and send them six months, or one-fourth for three months. All such subscriptions must be for one year. We receive subscriptions for the BLADE alone three months for fifty cents, or at the same rate for any shorter time.

Remittances in Post Office Orders, or by Draft on New York, Philadelphia or Boston, payable to the order of MILLER, LOCKE & CO., *are at our risk*. If sent otherwise, we cannot be responsible if losses occur. We can not use checks at par.—All charges on money sent us *must* be prepaid by the sender and not deducted from the remittance.

And in this connection we invite our readers to look over our clubbing list and see at what very low rates they can procure the choicest reading matter in connection with the BLADE. Our list embraces the very best periodical literature of the country, and at such prices as to bring it within the reach of every family. The BLADE weekly and *Harper's*, the *Atlantic*, *Lippincott's*, or any of the four dollar magazines, for only $4.75! Or the BLADE and *Wood's Household Magazine* for only $2.60! And others at the same very low rates! Surely there can be no excuse for any family being without a good supply of current literature when it can be had at such rates. Think of these things when making up your reading matter for the coming year.

A. D. FRENCH.—Send us your questions again and they will be attended to.

REGULAR READER WRITES:—"You seem to be expected to know everything; please tell me if you can where I can get an odometer, or an indicator to put on a buggy hub to measure road distance."—If you will address HENRY CAREY BAIRD, Philadelphia, Pa., he will either furnish you the instrument or put you in communication with some one who will.

A FARMER, Grand View, Ind., writes:—"Will you please inform me through your correspondent's columns at your earliest convience, if the Government offers a reward or premium on perpetual motion and if so how much?"—The government has never done so foolish a thing as to offer a reward to the inventor of perpetual motion, and never will do so. If you are spending any time on the solution of this problem, let us advise you to give it up. Whenever you can succeed in lifting yourself over a fence by the straps of your boots you may expect to succeed in the invention of perpetual motion—not before.

STUDENT, Westerville, Ohio, ask:—"What are the public debts of the United States, Great Britain, France, Russia, Austria, and Italy?"—United States, $2,246,251,787; Great Britain, $3,085,153,250; France, $2,833,490,285; Russia, $1,872,723,880; Austria, $1,512,637,048; Italy, $1,057,516,490.

JONATHAN, Grand Island, Nebraska, asks:—"What metal is the best conductor of electricity, and what are the relative conducing powers of the different metals?"—Silver and copper are the best conductors and are equally good. Putting these at 100, the other principal metals would stand as follows: Gold, 81; zinc, 49; platinum 34; iron, 31; tin, 30; lead, 18.

J. L. W., Berne, N. Y.—For such information as you want we can only refer you to our advertising columns, or those of some other paper. We can not consent to make this department of the BLADE a gratuitous advertising medium for anybody's benefit, as would be the case were we to give here the information you ask for.

W. H. R., Mechanicsburg, Ind., asks:—"1. Which is proper to say "one and three-quarters of a mile," or "one and three-quarter miles." 2. Who once originated the slang phrase "Shoo Fly"?—1. It is correct to say one and three-quarters of a mile, but one mile and three-quarters is better. One and three-quarter miles is not correct. 2. The slang phrase "shoo fly" originated from a song quite popular with traveling negro minstrels a year or two ago, and which had a good deal more sound than sense to it.

SALMON L. JOHNSON, Cataraugus, N. Y., asks.—"What is Babbitt metal, and how is it made? How does it differ from type metal?"—Babbitt's metal is a soft alloy invented by Mr. Isaac Babbitt, of Boston, and applied to the lining of boxes for axles and gudgeons, with the object of diminishing friction, abrasion and heat, and thus producing economy in oil. These patent boxes are extensively in use in the machinery of steamboats and locomotives throughout the United States. It is made as follows: To 4 lbs of melted copper, 12 lbs of best Banca tin are gradually added, then 8 lbs of regulus of antimony, and the 12 lbs more of tin, the heat after the copper is melted to be kept low—at a dull red. A little powdered charcoal on the metal protects it from oxidation. This alloy is called the hardening. For use for lining boxes for axles &c., one pound of this alloy is melted with two pounds of Banca tin, the second melting being more economical than to melt all at once. Type metal formerly consisted of an alloy of 75 parts of lead and 25 of antimony, but a harder alloy was afterwards substituted for this, especially for the smaller letters, consisting of 50 parts of lead, 25 of tin and 25 of antimony. Other compositions have also been used, in one of which, known as Dodot's metal, one part of copper is united with three each of lead, tin and antimony. The composition of type metal varies, however, with different founders, each of whom adopts the alloy which he considers the most ready and best suited to the peculiar style and size of the type cast.

HENRY WORK, Plymouth, Ind., a veteran friend of the BLADE, sending an addition to his club, says the first President he voted for was John Quincy Adams, in 1824, that he held an appointment in the Branch of the United States Bank in Cincinnati when it was vetoed by Gen. Jackson, and asks if the country did not lose in consequence of that veto, and the establishment of wild-cat Banks everywhere, more money than the national debt was at the close of the war? It is impossible to know what the losses were to the people by these irresponsible Banks and by the heavy exchanges and discounts they were compelled to pay, but we have no doubt they were more than double the amount of our national debt. We agree with our correspondent that we have now one of the best governments and best currencies in the world. We hardly appreciate the value of the latter until we look back a few years and think of the inconveniences and losses under the old system, when, as Mrs. Torsolly says, our paper money would hardly pass from our country to another.

SOURBURST, Hillsdale, Ohio.—We regard the bonds you inquire about as a perfectly safe and good investment.

YEDDER, Lynn, Ind., asks:—"1. What is the origin of the letters A. M., and P. M., standing for forenoon and afternoon? 2. What is meant by the advertisement, '8 o'clock,' soon in so many of the newspapers?"

1. The letter A. M., stand for *Ante Meridian*, meaning before noon, and P. M., *Post Meridian*, meaning after noon. 2. The "8 o'clock" advertisement is sent out by the Theomedian Tea company, but what good it can do them in that shape we can not say.

RAINES, Lima, Ohio.—For the Agricultural and Patent Office reports, address your member of Congress.

A BOSTONIAN sends us a parody on the poem, "I Would Not Die in Summer," and says it is his "first attempt." As a friend, we advise him not to make the second attempt. It won't pay. If he wants to write let him adopt a more useful field and he may succeed.

S. "Shrewsbury," Paris, N. Y.—The Diner Knot of Decorum, published by Harpers, New York, is a good work for your purpose.

REGULAR, Decatur, Ill., says that he has been in both the regular and volunteer army service has been all over the west is one of those rolling stones that gather no moss, always expects to be a rolling stone and don't want to gather any moss, and now wants to try a sea-faring life a few years. He asks: "How is a common sailor treated? Are they paid by the month or day? Which do you think it best to go on, a common merchant vessel or in the United States Navy? Which is preferable, a steamer or sailing vessel? When is the best time of year to go, and what the best place to start from? Is it a rough, hard life?" "These questions," he adds, "are from one who knows nothing about a sailor's life, except what he has read, and the rougher and wilder the life the better it will suit him."—Our correspondent must be a singular specimen of human nature, but we will answer his questions, hoping he will be a rolling stone no longer, but settle down and try to become contented and to make himself useful and a blessing to those around him. A common sailor is nearly always badly treated. They are generally paid by the month, sometimes by the voyage. If you go on a merchant vessel you can leave if you want to at the end of the voyage for which you engaged, if you go in the Navy you are in for it during the term of your enlistment. There is but little if any difference between a sailor's life on a steamer or on a sailing vessel; if you go on one you'll wish you had gone on the other and vice versa; and no matter what season of the year you go you'll wish you hadn't gone just then. New York or Philadelphia is as good a place as any to ship from, and lastly, it is a rough, hard life, and we think you had better keep out of it. You can surely find a better use than that for the life and powers God has given you.

A. J. asks, "Who is the present Governor of Texas, and when and by what majority was he elected?" Edmund J. Davis (Republican), was elected in 1869, by 783 majority over Andrew J. Hamilton, independent. Hamilton Stuart, Democrat, received 445 votes. Davis over all, 338.

E. S., Summerville, Pa., asks: "Why was the party that elected Washington and John Adams to the Presidency called Federals? Please give a short sketch of that party."—Because they claimed to be the peculiar friends of the Constitution, also of the government. Their opponents, the Republicans, they called anti-Federalists, and charged them to a certain extent with hostility to, or distrust of, the United States Constitution and the general government. The Republicans, however, strenuously denied the truth of these charges. The Federalist party was formed in 1788. Its most distinguished leaders were Washington, Adams, Hamilton, and Jay, and the leading Federalist States were Massachusetts and Connecticut, supported generally, though not uniformly by the rest of New England. Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Burr, and Gallatin lead the Republicans. The Federalists were defeated in the Presidential election of 1800, when the Republican candidates were elected, Jefferson, President, and Burr Vice-President. The opposition of the Federalists to the war of 1812, and, above all, the calling of the Hartford convention, completed their destruction as a national party. In 1816 Monroe, the Republican candidate for President, received the electoral vote of all the States with the exception of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Delaware, which gave 34 electoral ballots against him, while from the other States he received 183 votes. At the next election, in 1820, the Federalist party was completely routed, Monroe receiving every electoral vote except one.

F. M. B., Massachusetts.—Your questions are also answered in the above.

F. M. WHITE, Greenville, Ohio, asks: "Will you please inform me, in Answers to Correspondents, who is the author of Margaret Howth, and what other work he or she has written?" Mrs. Rebecca Harding Davis is the author of "Margaret Howth." She also wrote "Life in the Iron Mills" and several other works, the titles of which we do not now remember.

J. S. PLOVER, Wis.—We have not the poem at command at present, but will endeavor to find and publish it.

L. W. G., Muscatine, Iowa.—If you will send your application for work on the Northern Pacific Railroad to Jay Cooke & Co., Philadelphia, it will be forwarded to the proper parties.

D. W., Minton, Ross county, Ohio, asks:—"1. Is there any good farming land in Iowa subject to homestead? If so please name one or more counties where it is located. 2. Is there a chance to buy timber near to it, and at what price?"—Most of the government land in Iowa is situated in the Sioux City land district, embracing the counties of Woodbury, Plymouth, Sioux, Lyon, Osceola, O'Brien, Cherokee, Ida, Sac, Buena Vista, Clay and Dickinson. You can obtain particulars and plats by addressing Register of Land Office, Sioux City, Iowa. You will find it very difficult to get a farm part prairie and part timber. Timber land ranges in price all the way from ten to fifty dollars per acre.

EMMA SELVEY, Kansas.—We have never seen the offer of Mr. S. S. Packard that he would afford any number of young ladies an opportunity to prepare themselves in a suitable manner for business situations, and find for them positions when they were qualified to fill them, and we doubt whether such offer was ever made. Mr. Packard's address is No. 805 Broadway, New York City. In closing her note asking for this information our correspondent gracefully says:—"I trust you will pardon me for the trouble I may be giving you in asking these questions, and may I offer as an excuse for so doing, my earnest wish to help myself and be of use to others?"—No apology was necessary for the trouble, and we hope you may be successful in your very laudable purpose.

SUBSCRIBER, Grant, Wo., asks:—"Are lightning rods a humbug, or are they actually a protection to houses and other buildings against lightning?"—If properly put up they are a complete protection. The proper method of putting them up has been several times explained in this department of the BLADE.

WILLIE LEE.—Your disease is not incurable, but do not allow yourself to fall into the hands of unprincipled quacks. Put yourself under the treatment of a competent and conscientious physician. If you do not know of one in whom you can feel entire confidence, address Dr. Hamilton, Columbus, O.

HUGH L. THOMPSON, Centre Creek, Mo., asks:—"Were not soldiers in all wars, previous to that of the rebellion, entitled to the benefit of the Homestead Law the same as citizens, if they claimed it? Please answer the above question in your answers to correspondents."—The first homestead law was approved and took effect May 20, 1862, and under its provisions soldiers and citizens farred alike—being entitled to eighty acres inside, or one hundred and sixty acres outside of Railroad limits. On the 15th of July, 1870, an act was approved giving soldiers one hundred and sixty acres inside of Railroad limits.

CENTRALIA, Illinois, writes as follows:—"Will you please answer these two questions in the BLADE: Was Hannibal, the Carthaginian, a negro? My opponent says he was a negro, because he was a native of Africa, and a white child never was, and cannot be born in Africa. With what are balloons inflated? We have been trying to raise a small paper balloon for amusement by burning under it all kinds of oils, to produce a gas, but it won't rise.

HANNIBAL was not a negro. The assertion that "a white child never was, and cannot be, born in Africa," is as ridiculous as to say that a black child never was, and cannot be born in the United States.

Balloons are generally inflated with the common illuminating gas, (carburetted hydrogen) but heated air is also frequently used. A small and very light wire basket should be suspended precisely in the center of the mouth of the balloon; in this a sponge, or any other light substance, is fastened and saturated with alcohol or some other inflammable material. The heat produced by the burning of this is generally sufficient to raise a small balloon made of tissue paper. Hydrogen gas, however, owing to its lightness, is the best article to use for this purpose, though somewhat expensive. The common method of preparing it is to place some bits of zinc in oil of vitriol or sulphuric acid, diluted with five or six times its bulk of water; with an excess of zinc there may be entrance in this way 615 cubic inches of hydrogen. For making the gas in small quantities a common flask answers very well, by inserting a bent tube through the cork for the exit of the gas, and a straight tube, terminating above in a small funnel and reaching down nearly to the bottom of the flask. Through this tube the acid is poured in as required, the zinc and water having been first introduced. The gas being only about one-twelfth as heavy as common air of course is the best article for inflating balloons, the only objection to it being the expense of preparing it in large quantities.

JAMES A. TAYLOR, Machias, Maine.—Address Superintendent Northern Pacific Railroad, Duluth, Minn.

O. C. ADAMS asks: "What first gave rise to the name of Mason and Dixon's line. Is it real or imaginary?" It is a long story, and we have room for only a brief outline of it. In general terms it is the parallel of latitude 39 deg. 43 min. 26.3 sec., which separates Pennsylvania from Maryland, drawn by Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, two distinguished English mathematicians and astronomers. It forms the dividing line between the free and slave States of the original confederation, and from this it came to be used in a general way to express the dividing line between the rest of the free and slave states.

Insurance Department

CONDUCTED BY J. H. AND C. M. GOODSELL.

The California fire companies doing business in this part of the country of late years, made loud protestations of the superior value and security of their policies because of the personal liability clause in their State law, whereby all stockholders were assessable for the entire liabilities of the company. But when the Chicago fire came and wiped out the larger part of their resources, and brought to maturity the personal liability promised of shareholders, there was a terrible flutter, and only two companies—the Union and the Fireman's Fund—stood up honorably to meet their indebtedness. The Pacific, Occidental and Peoples'—all of San Francisco—backed and filled; now promising to pay, and then repudiating, and finally putting in a plea that the State law, as to "personal liability" was unconstitutional. Thus the matter now rests. But when one remembers how boastingly these companies talked of their wealthy constituency, and how distinctly they put forward, as a title to confidence, the very law they now denounce, it is difficult to realize that so short a corner could possibly be turned, even by the sharp operators of San Francisco herself. Meanwhile we advise policy holders not to abate one per cent from their claims. All will come right after a time.

People who want to be insured, now-a days, must take a sensible view of the situation, and cheerfully pay *cost*, at least, for the commodity they try to buy. Cheap insurance at all, for the simple reason that every policy issued at less than known cost is, by so much, a depletion of the assets of the company issuing it. If buyers of policies think they can afford to pay premiums and then remain naturally their own insurers, why that is their own affair, not ours. But those who really want to buy indemnity against the contingency of fire, must bring themselves to be willing to pay what it is worth. We not only consider current insurance rates reasonable, but absolutely lower than the solvent companies would be justified in charging. It must be remembered that, even at the advance, the companies are charging no more now than they charged in 1867 or 1868; although the $90,000,000 lost at Chicago is justly assessable upon fire premiums for many years in the future. If the companies fully comprehended the situation, we are of opinion that insurance rates would be twice as high as they now are, and for ten years to come. Cheap insurance is played out.

The fire insurance companies organizing in New York to fill the places of those bankrupted in October are the Farragut, New Era, Atlantic, North American, Washington, Irving, Lorillard, Market, Ætna, Yonkers and Safeguard. All of these but two are direct successors of others similarly named. The Farragut, New Era and Safeguard are projected as heirs of the business of the Fulton, Security and Astor Companies, respectively. The Ætna is the first to secure the necessary amount of capital to begin business with. Two or three of the others are said to be in an encouraging position as to being organized before January 1st; but of the majority it is quite doubtful if they succeed in getting any further along than they are now. Money doesn't hanker after new insurance projects just now, and those engaged in promoting these new enterprises have found their path beset with briars. Meanwhile a number of companies have quietly repaired their capitals and are in a better condition than ever. The Home finds some recalcitrants among its stockholders, who object to the sixty per cent assessment, but it is generally supposed that the $1,500,000 necessary to repair the capital will eventually be secured. It would be a pity that this should not be the case.

While the depressed condition of life insurance business is a chronic complaint among companies and agents all over the country, there are a few companies whose managers say nothing, but keep right on, attending strictly to business, and making up for themselves a record of progress. Another month or two will put us in possession of the year's transactions as reported officially. And we will venture the assertion that, despite all the lachrymose and querulous complaints, a goodly exhibit will be made by most of the companies. We see no reason to doubt that a majority of the life offices are in a sounder financial condition now than ever before, and the recent withdrawal, by amalgamation, of several companies will have the effect to diminish, by so much, the competition which has so terribly demoralized the business. As the list of competitors becomes reduced, a healthier state of things will supervene, and, unless we greatly mistake the signs of the times, the coming year will inaugurate a new departure in life insurance, the result of which will add a most brilliant chapter to its history.

The latest calculations indicate that the Fire Insurance Companies of this country and England had $90,000,000 involved in the great fire at Chicago. Of this sum it is stated local Chicago companies (all of which have failed, except one or two) held one-third or $30,000,000; bankrupt companies $40,000,000 and solvent companies $20,000,000. The latter, of course, will pay in full; the Chicago companies cannot possibly pay more than $5,000,000 of the $30,000,000 they owe, and the insolvent companies from other localities may be set down for 50 cents on the dollar. Thus only half of the insurance money called for by the policies is likely to find its way into the pockets of the losers and, even so, this only a part will be collected at once. The $25,000,000 supposed to be recoverable from the Chicago and other bankrupt companies, will not all be gathered in for many months to come. Here we have a very pointed illustration of the wisdom of exercising as much care and investigation in buying insurance as is exercised in any other kind of purchase. Without asserting that precautionary measures might have prevented all of this terrible loss of money by policyholders, we feel confident that the loss could have been largely diminished by reasonable forethought on the part of the insured.

It is estimated that for at least six weeks after the fire at Chicago, the insurance companies had an average of two hundred and fifty adjusters, agents or officers at the scene, all the time, at an average expense of $5,000 a day, or over $300,000 for the time. Be that, besides the loss incurred, there was a large additional expense involved in trying to find out how much was really lost and whether anything could be saved.

The *Spectator* for December, just issued, gives the following information, valuable to every policy holder in the six suspended companies, respecting the powers and duties of receivers of insolvent insurance companies:

The New York law governing receivers of insolvent insurance corporations prescribes the following form of procedure. The company's existence as a corporation ceases at once, its assets become the property of the policyholders and are to be administered upon for their sole benefit; in four months from the time of his appointment, the receiver must call a general meeting of the creditors and report all the facts and figures bearing upon the settlement of the claims, and after adjusting these latter, a *pro rata* dividend must be declared. The first dividend may be as small or as large as the receiver shall see fit to make. A second and final dividend must be made at the end of sixteen months from the date of the receiver's appointment, or in one year from the time of the first dividend. Notice of this final dividend (stating that it is a final dividend) must be published once a week for three weeks in the state paper, and also in one of the papers of the county where the company is located. In distributing the assets to the creditors, the receiver must first pay all debts entitled to preference under the federal laws; secondly, judgments actually obtained against the corporation, to the extent of the value of the real estate on which they shall respectively be liens; and, thirdly, all other creditors, *pro rata*, giving no preference to debts due on specialities. The failure of a creditor to present his claim previous to the time of the first dividend, does not prejudice his rights under that dividend, but all claims are barred which do not present themselves within the sixteen months of the receiver's term. Three months after the second dividend shall have been paid, the receiver must make his report to the court, three weeks, notice having first been published. If not objected to, the court approves the report and decrees the same to be final and conclusive upon all creditors.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

F. A. Marden, chief of the division of accounts, has been arrested and held for trial for stealing over $12 000 of the government funds at Washington. The loss falls on Treasurer Spinner.

An injunction was granted on Thursday by Judge Miller restraining the Independent Fire Insurance company of Boston, from continuing business, pending the decision on application to put its affairs in the hands of a receiver.

The Grand Duke and suit arrived in Boston, Thursday evening. They were received by the City Commissioners and escorted to the Revere House, where they were presented to the most prominent citizens.

Secretary Boutwell has given notice that on and after the 7th of March, 1872, the principal and accrued interest on the 5 20 coupon and registered bonds known as the second series of the act of February 25th, 1862, will be paid at the Treasury department. The amount of these bonds not converted and thus called in is twenty millions.

In the Tobacco Convention on Thursday a resolution was adopted favoring a uniform tax on all grades of manufactured tobacco of 16 cents per pound. A resolution was also adopted favoring the continuation of the bonded warehouse system in opposition to the recommendation of Commissioner Douglas, who desires to resume the old drawback system.

An imposing demonstration was made Wednesday evening at Birmingham, England, in favor of reform in the House of Lords, and the limitation of its power to defeat or suspend beneficial and progressive legislation of the House of Commons. Mr. Dilke addressed the meeting, and while speaking was frequently interrupted. So great was the confusion that he was obliged to desist. Resolutions were adopted protesting against the principles of hereditary legislation, and demanding the withdrawal of legislative functions from the bench of Bishops.

There is a lively contest over the California Senatorship, Mr. COLE, present Senator, and Mr. SARGENT, Ex-Congressman, being the leading competitors.

Seth Johnson, the Treasury defaulter, was arrested Friday evening. No additional irregularities have been discovered in the Treasury Department.

The American Woman's Suffrage Convention held a session in Washington on Friday evening, at Music Hall. There was a large attendance, including Senators and Representatives in Congress.

The Pennsylvania Railroad has leased the Memphis & Charleston Railroad for forty years, guaranteeing three per cent. for the first five years, then six per cent. The question of lease is to be submitted to the stockholders.

Twenty-five lives were lost on the Nova Scotia coast in gales, last week: 11 by the wreck of the schooner Hacket, in Avon River, nine by the Bermudian brigantine Jabez, at the Straits of Canso, and five by the schooner Catharine, in Yarmouth Sound.

The Kansas Pacific Railroad, which has been blocked by snow, is now clear from Kansas City to Cheyenne, and the Union Pacific mails are coming over it from the west. Mild winds and sunshine have settled the snow so that there is no further danger of drifting.

A committee of experts and engravers have been at work examining purchased, redeemed and exchanged bonds, with a view to ascertain if any spurious issue is being redeemed by the Government, but they have not found any such bonds. In pursuance of orders received, the upper portion of each of the bonds, containing the number and denomination thereof, is retained in the Treasury, the remainder being destroyed.

The reception of Grand Duke Alexis in Boston, Cambridge, and Charleston last Friday was cordial, and was evidently enjoyed by the distinguished visitor. At the State House the Grand Duke was welcomed by Gov. Chaffin in a short address. At Cambridge the party was received by President Elliot and at the Charleston Navy Yard a salute of 20 guns was fired. After an inspection of the various departments, Alexis and suite returned to the Revere House.

It is stated that Sumner will decline the appointment of Chairman on Privileges and Elections.

The Bowling Green Savings Bank will pay 10 per cent. by January 1st, and 45 more within six months.

Seven new cases of small pox are reported in New York since Friday noon, and five deaths, making thirty six cases and fourteen deaths for the week.

Saturday night the steamers Highlander and Hercules were burned at Kingston. Loss $50,000; no insurance. Charles Kelley was burned to death.

Several ladies have registered for the purpose of voting at the next municipal election in Memphis under the clause in the city charter allowing all property holders, whether residents or not, to vote.

The President, on the earnest appeal of the entire Kansas delegation, has ordered that the Humboldt, Kansas, Land Office be removed to Neosha, instead of Independence, as heretofore ordered.

The Philadelphia *Mining Journal* says that coal strikes at this time would be only in the interests of operators. Miners cannot expect to get any advantages by striking, as the market has a large supply to run on.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue made various nominations of Internal Revenue officers to the President on Saturday, among which was Alonzo B. Carroll to be Assessor of the 2d Wisconsin district, vice Jared Smith, removed.

The Bible war at Hunter's Point, N. Y., has ended in a compromise between the Catholic committee and commissioners. All those expelled are to be taken back. Catholic children are allowed to remain in the class rooms during religious exercises.

M. E. Ingalls and Gen. Morris were on Saturday, at Lawrenceburgh, Ind., elected assignees of the Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Lafayette Railroad. Ex-President Lord and his friends made no contest. Ingalls and Morris have been the receivers since the road got into the court.

Attorney General Ackerman has said nothing whatever to the President about his leaving the Cabinet, nor has the President said anything to Ackerman on the subject. Members of Congress and others have, however, freely expressed themselves in favor of the change, and are endeavoring to effect it.

The bill introduced by Senator Edmunds to regulate the Civil Service, provides that appointments to all offices except Postmaster and such as are required by law to be made by the President, with the consent of the Senate, shall depend upon open competitive examination, and a Board of Commissioners is to be appointed for five years unless sooner removed by the President with the consent of the Senate.

The bill introduced by Senator Crogin provides stringent means for the execution of the law against polygamy and incestuous cohabitation in Utah; for the reorganization of the territorial militia and suppression of the so-called Legislature of Deseret. There will likely be little business before the House Military Committee. Legislation upon the subject of staff of the army is, however, probable.

A call for a National Convention to secure the recognition of God in the Constitution by amendment to that instrument has just been issued from Cincinnati. It is signed by the Governors of Pennsylvania, Vermont, Kansas, Judge Wm. Murray, of New York; Bishops McIlvain and numerous clergy of Cincinnati. It is to be held in Cincinnati, January 31, 1872. No Methodist ministers signed the call. Methodist Episcopal ministers decline to agitate that question.

BOSTON, Dec. 9.—The banquet to the Grand Duke at the Revere House, tonight, was a fine affair, and attended by many distinguished people. Robert C. Winthrop presided and made a graceful speech, complimentary to Russia, and their guest, saying it was with pleasure a member of the Imperial family of the Czar was welcomed to Boston.

The Grand Duke responded to this welcome in a brief speech.

ALBANY, Dec. 9.—In the opening argument before Judge Learned in the Supreme Court, on an order to show cause why the order for the arrest of Richard B. Connolly, ex-Comptroller, should not be vacated or his bail bond reduced, Hon. H. G. Courtney, of the counsel for Connolly read the affidavit of his client in response to the affidavit of Peckham, on which the arrest was made. Connolly, in the main, denies the allegation that he did not appoint Green Comptroller through any consciousness of guilt, or that he was a party to any conspiracy or collusion; and, also, particularly denies that he ever thought of leaving the State or country.

Mr. Strahan, on behalf of the people, read the affidavit of the Chief Clerk in the Comptroller's office, showing that Connolly and the late County Auditor, Watson, were accustomed to hold private consultations. Other affidavits were also read showing irregularity of accounts in the Comptroller's office.

Mr. Courtney then proceeded with the argument, saying the prosecution had given no evidence of guilt against Connolly. They have not shown that he has got a single cent of the three millions alleged to have been stolen. There was not a single allegation which would warrant issuing the order for Connolly's arrest, unless it was that he was about to abscond. The Chairman of the Committee of Seventy and sub-committee, after examination could find nothing implicating Connolly. He concluded by appealing to the Judge to decide this question without regard to public clamor.

O'CONNOR, replying, said he had nothing to show that Mayor Hall is not a vulgar thief. Further, he believed if there was anything against Hall, he would not fly. He can be prosecuted at leisure. I believe, however, that Tweed and Connolly would fly. He continued referring at length to the circumstances of Tweed's and Connolly's connection therewith. He criticised Connolly's affidavits, declaring its denials too general. He thought it should be disregarded. He thought his honor should postpone the case one week and appoint a referee in New York to test all the evidence; Connolly should be held on two grounds: First, the insufficiency of the answer. Second, because he is guilty of neglect.

Wm. Beach, on behalf of Connolly, next addressed the court, and said that the Mayor, who was just as guilty, was not proceeded against, while Connolly was lodged in jail. Connolly's affidavit is a full and satisfactory answer. He denied the right of the people of the State to bring an action to recover from the county of New York.

Mr. Beach contended that the Attorney General was unwarranted in bringing suit. The power to bring suit was vested in the people, and they had not, through their legislature, directed these prosecutions. He protested against Mr. O'Connor's proposition to have the case passed upon by a referee.

O'Connor then repeated his views expressed in the Tweed suit as to the right of the people to sue. Upon the conclusion of the arguments, the Judge took the papers.

VERSAILLES, Dec. 7.—The message of Thiers was received in the Assembly today and read. It announces that the British Government has been notified of the intention of France to abrogate the treaty of commerce at the stipulated time, but France will not discontinue negotiations for re-arrangement of her commercial relations with England. The Deputies are warned never to forget to what depths of wretchedness the Empire had led the country. France should now look for a complete organization to God and to time. It was her policy to endure a dignified peace. Should war occur, despite her determination to remain at peace, it should not be her dead. France must resume the position to which she was entitled, not only for her own good but for the interest of all nations.

France sympathizes with the Pope in the maintenance of his spiritual independence. The utmost cordiality is manifested towards Austria, for whose prosperity, a fervent hope is expressed. The relations of France with Russia, says the President, are those of reciprocal interest. Thiers deplores the indebtedness of the country, but says it is due to the machinations of the Emperor Napoleon. The President advocates the establishment of general compulsory military service in war time and proposes the limitation of the annual contingent to thirty thousand men in time of peace. The message concludes with an expression of confidence in the patriotism of the Assembly.

LONDON, Dec. 8—9.30 P. M.—The Prince of Wales has slept slightly, but is still very much prostrated.

LONDON, Dec 8—Midnight.—A sudden and unfavorable change in the condition of the Prince of Wales, has caused a feeling of deep sorrow throughout the entire country, and manifestations of sympathy are pouring in from all sections. The excitement in London to-night has been intense and immense crowds of people have gathered in front of the newspaper and telegraph offices anxiously seeking information concerning the condition of the Prince. All classes, including the workingmen, have held public meetings at which resolutions were adopted expressing the deepest sympathy for his Royal Highness.

LONDON, Dec. 9, 11 P. M.—The latest official bulletin dated Sandringham, 10 p. m., says the Prince has slept since noon, but there is no improvement in symptoms. Many public dinners and other projected festivities have been postponed in consequence of the Prince's illness.

LONDON, Dec. 10—9 A. M.—Sir Wm. Jenner and other physicians in attendance upon the Prince of Wales, have just issued a bulletin stating that His Royal Highness passed a quiet night. The prostration, however, still exists, and grave symptoms of the disease under which the Prince is suffering have not increased.

LATER.—SANDRIGHAM, Dec. 10.—Noon—The Prince of Wales, passed the morning tranqually, and his general condition is somewhat more satisfactory than yesterday. The bulletin is signed by all the physicians attending the Prince.

LONDON, December 10.—The Prince of Wales' great prostration is due to hemorrhage ulcers in the intestines. It is feared one of the intestines may be perforated. In that case he would die suddenly in a collapse like Earl Chesterfield.

LONDON, Dec. 10—11 P. M.—The physicians in attendance upon the Prince of Wales, have just issued the following bulletin:

"SANDRINGHAM, Dec. 10—10:30 P. M.—The Prince has been restless during the evening, and there is no abatement in the dangerous symptoms of the disease."

LONDON, Dec. 8.—The Prince of Wales is dying. The Queen is wild with grief. The Princess Alexandria is unnaturally and dangerously calm. Great consternation prevails. The Home Secretary has been summoned to Sandringham. Fears of a political convulsion increase. The bell-ringers have assembled at St. Paul's, and will announce the tidings of the Prince's death as soon as received. The republicans held a secret meeting to-night and decided against immediate action.

LONDON, Dec. 11, 5 a. m.—It is manifest from the active sympathy everywhere, and the prayers for the Prince of Wales, that the symptoms of death are very imminent, and that all hopes of his recovery have been abandoned. The Queen and the Princess Alexandria are being well fatigued, and the latter hardly leaves the sick room.

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, Dec. 10.—Several cases of cholera appeared in this city.

DR. RANSOM'S HIVE SYRUP AND TOLU.—Doctor, I have a terrible cough, and my children are all down sick with coughs, sore throats and colds. What shall we do? Take "Dr. Ransom's Hive Syrup and Tolu, or Honey Syrup," and apply "Dr. Trask's Magnetic Ointment" to the throat and chest, warm. This will soon relieve and cure you and all the children. These are excellent family medicines. Full directions are on the bottles. You can get both medicines at any drug store for 50 cents.

I often prescribe your Hive Syrup and Tolu in my practice, and can truly say that I have no other preparation in my store for hoarseness, colds, coughs, and that often fatal disease, croup, that can compare with it.

S. L. ROBINSON, M. D.,
Burlington Flats, N. Y.

The Markets.

New York Produce Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11, 1871.

Cotton in active demand, and better prices: middling uplands 20c. Flour firm; receipts 8,600 bbls; superfine western and state, $5 85@6 10; common to good extra $6 40@6 70; white wheat extra $7 05@7 25; Ohio extras $6 55@7 50. St. Louis $6 80@8 25. Rye flour and Corn Meal unchanged. Whiskey dull at 100c. Wheat very quiet; receipts 70,000 bu No 2 spring at 133@134½c; winter red western 138@139c; amber 162@166c; white 162@170c. Rye and barley unchanged. Corn dull; receipts 35,000 bu; western mixed in store 70@72c afloat 76c; new western mixed 77@79c. Oats dull; receipts 23,000 bu Ohio and western at 56@57. Hay and Hops unchanged. Coffee firm. Sugar steady. Molasses firm; New Orleans 48@56. Rice 8½@9c. Petroleum—crude 15½@16c; refined 23½@24c. Turpentine firm at 42½@43c. Total stock of Grain—wheat, 4,165,000 bu; corn, 1,391,000 bu; oats, 1,015,000 bu; rye, 537,000 bu; barley, 350,000 bu; malt, 100,000 bu. Mess Pork $18 60@18 70; new $15; prime $12; prime mess $19@21 25. Beef steady; Lard firm; 13½c for January and March, $15. Beef and Cut Meats unchanged. Middles steady. Lard firm; No. 1 to prime steam 9¼@9¾c; kettle 9¾c; refer Dec. 9¼c; January 9¼c, Feb. 10c. Butter and Cheese unchanged.

Toledo Produce Market.

TUESDAY MORNING, Dec. 11.

We have no material change to report in the market for Flour, quotations are: Fine, $4 25@4 50; Superfine, $4 75@5; Extra, $5 25@5 50; XX and Fancy, $5 75@7 00; Buckwheat, $6 50@7.

Wheat—We give quotations of various grades: Amber, 146c; No 1 White Michigan inactive, nominally 148c; No 2 and 3 White Wabash nominal; No 1 Red, dull at 141c; No 2 Red dull at 138½c; No 3 Red a shade lower at 136½c. Corn—the market is void of animation. High mixed is worth 56½c asked and 55c last half the month. Low-mixed 56c; No Grade dull at 49½c; Yellow Corn held at 51½c, with 51½c bid. Michigan Corn dull at 58½c. Oats—dull; No 1 47c; No 2, 40½c for Wabash; Michigan Oats, 44½c. Seeds are quiet; Clover, $6 20@6 60; Timothy $2 25@2 35 Flax, $1 65. Butter—fresh, 20@21c; Extra, 22@23c. Apples, per bbl, $1 75@2 50. Potatoes 50@55c as to quality. Poultry—Turkeys 12@13c; Chickens 8@10c; Ducks 10@11c; Geese 9@10c. Lard 8@8½c. Dressed Hogs $5 20@5 25. Fresh Beef—hind quarters 6½@7c; fore do 4@4½c.

Chicago Market.

CHICAGO, Dec. 11.

Flour firmer; high grades quiet; Buckwheat Flour in good demand. Wheat dull and drooping, No 1 spring 125c; No 2 120½c, rejected 105@106c; No 2 spring, seller December, 120@120½c; seller last half of the month at 120½c; seller January at 123c; seller February 121@121½c.—Corn in fair demand, but at lower rates; No 2 mixed 42¾@43c; rejected 38½@40c; ear 45c at Stock Yards; no 2 mixed, seller January, at 41½c; seller April at 45½c; seller May at 48@48½c. Oats in demand, fair, but prices are lower; No 2 37½c; rejected 29½@30c; No 2 seller January at 33c. Rye firm 55½c, other kinds lifeless. Barley in fair demand but firm. No 2 spring 85½c; No 3 do 81c; No 2 spring, seller January at 84@84½c. Pork less active but strong—mess $15 10, seller January $15 80@15 90, seller February $15 70@15 75, March $15 90@16 00; April $16 10@16 20, with the market closing at the outside figures. Lard in good demand at 9½c seller January at 9½c, February at 9½c, April 9¾c. Green Meats in good request and firm; loose 6½@7½c; shoulders 5¾@6c; rough sides 5½c;